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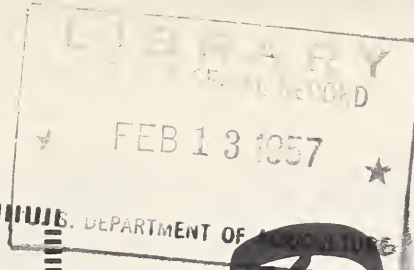
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FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES



Digest

JANUARY 1957

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

July-December agricultural exports are estimated ahead 39 percent in value, 45 percent in quantity, for 1956 compared with 1955. With one-half of the fiscal year now completed, agricultural exports for July-December are estimated at \$2.3 billion in 1956 compared with an actual export value of \$1.6 billion in 1955. Export quantity is estimated 45 percent up. Largest gain among major commodity groups was in cotton. Other increases were in oilseeds and expressed vegetable oils, fruits and vegetables, and livestock products. Grains and feeds were up as a group, but increases in food grains were partly offset by declines in feed grains. Rice exports were at a record high. Tobacco exports were behind last year as shipments to the United Kingdom declined.

December 1956 exports estimated highest on record. December's export value is estimated at slightly more than \$500 million compared with \$310 million a year earlier and \$355 million in November 1956. This December's exports were ahead in both value and quantity of the \$460 million exported in December 1951, the previous alltime record. Agricultural exports normally reach a

Fiscal Year Agricultural Exports

Commodity	: July-December : %		
	: 1955	: 1956 ^{1/}	: chg.
	: \$ million :		
Cotton.....	136	465	:+242
Grains and feeds...	523	745	:+ 43
Tobacco leaf.....	255	205	:- 20
Veg. oils, oilseeds	202	235	:+ 16
Fruits and vogs. ..	150	200	:+ 33
Livestock products.	259	290	:+ 12
Private relief ^{2/} ..	68	65	:- 4
Other.....	44	65	:+ 48
Total.....	1,637	2,270	:+ 39

^{1/} Partly estimated. ^{2/} Mostly CCC donations to U. S. private welfare agencies for overseas needy.

peak in December. This December they were especially high due to a combination of several factors: The surplus disposal efforts of the Government; a continued high level of commercial exports; the November shipping strike that delayed agricultural exports estimated roughly at \$40 million; and the addition of 12 bulk-grain ships re-activated from Government "mothball fleet." Exports under Title I, P.L. 480 (foreign currency sales) were especially high in December because many of the authorizations were due to expire at the end of the month.

COTTON

December cotton exports at highest monthly rate in 5 years. Cotton exports are estimated from trade sources at about 850 thousand 480-pound bales in December 1956 compared with 166 thousand in December 1955. July-December total is estimated at 3.1 million bales in 1956, $4\frac{1}{2}$ times exports a year earlier. With over 6 million bales sold under CCC's competitive export pricing program, the expectations are that exports will continue heavy for several more months although CCC sales have now declined due to previous heavy sales of stocks in trading position. The sharp rebound in exports this year is attributable to this competitive pricing program and to stock rebuilding and consumption increases abroad. Export prices for U. S. cotton increased slightly during December because of the addition of carrying charges to prices for which CCC sold cotton for export.

TOBACCO

December tobacco exports up but fiscal year total is still behind. December exports of tobacco leaf are estimated at about 55 million pounds in 1956 compared with 45 million in 1955. July-December estimate of 305 million pounds in 1956 compares with actual shipments of 377 million pounds in 1955. Increased domestic demand for heavier-bodied grades (normally low and medium priced) raised prices sharply and weakened the U. S. competitive position in foreign markets. The foreign market has traditionally obtained heavier-bodied grades and these are now also in demand domestically for filter-tip cigarettes. Meanwhile, the large volume of very light flue-cured leaf (much of it lacking in desired flavor and aroma) that was produced last year is in weaker demand for export.

GRAINS

Grain and feed exports advanced more than seasonally. Exports of grains and feeds in December are estimated at more than \$150 million, a 50-percent advance over November's \$109 million, and two-thirds greater than in December 1955. December is usually a heavy export month for grains and feeds but exports this past December were even greater than the seasonal norm, partly due to recovery in the shipping situation following the November strike. The increases in December 1956, compared with December 1955, were principally in wheat and rice. Total value of grain and feed exports in the July-December period was close to \$750 million in 1956, half again as much as the \$523 million exported in 1955.

P.L. 480, Title I sales a big factor in December wheat exports. December exports of wheat and wheat flour are estimated close to 50 million bushels, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the 20 million bushels exported a year earlier. About one-third of the December 1956 wheat exports were under P.L. 480, Title I. This factor, together with delay in November exports due to the shipping strike, reactivation of bulk cargo ships from the "mothball fleet," and heavy import requirements in Europe contributed to the December increase. July-December estimate of about 240 million bushels is more than double the 111 million exported in the like period of 1955.

TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

January 30, 1957

The Maritime Commission program to release "mothballed" ships for exporting agricultural commodities is now in full swing. Through January 24, 70 bulk-cargo, 44 berth, and 95 coal ships (which will release other ships for wheat) were authorized for release to foreign trade. Through December 31, 16 bulk-cargo ships, 8 berth ships and 6 coal ships were actually in service. Of these, 12 ships were put in service in December--a big factor in increased exports last month.

This month President Eisenhower sent four documents to Congress that involved agricultural exports: The budget message, the economic report, the State of the Union message, and the semi-annual P. L. 480 report.

...The budget message and the economic report called for a 1-year extension of P. L. 480, Title I, foreign currency sales and a one billion dollar increase in authority.

...The State of the Union message urged U. S. membership in the proposed Organization for Trade Cooperation, "an action that will speed removal of discrimination against our export trade."

...The P. L. 480 report highlighted activities for July-December 1956. In that period, foreign currency sales agreements were signed for commodities valued at \$1,324.1 million (CCC cost), \$894.2 million (export market value). Approximately \$345 million of commodities at export market value were shipped.

Further easing of foreign restrictions that affect U. S. farm exports:

- ...United Kingdom: Oranges
- ...Austria: Oranges and tangerines (extension)
- ...Bolivia: Entire import duty system; many agricultural tariffs revised
- ...Uruguay: Lemons
- ...Trinidad: Poultry carcasses
- ...Sudan: All foodstuffs except luxury items
- ...Algeria: Vegetable oils (continuation)
- ...Lebanon: Butter

The way has now been cleared for U. S. traders to sell surplus agricultural commodities to Poland: The U. S. Department of Commerce will now consider applications for licensing sales at world market prices to be paid for in dollars. The policy change includes commodities subsidized or sold by CCC for dollars. Prohibition on exports to Poland under credit, barter, P. L. 480, and donation programs has not been changed. Consideration is being given to possible further liberalization.

How P. L. 480 foreign currency can help agriculture develop commercial markets abroad is illustrated by the program in Japan, second largest outlet for U. S. agricultural exports in fiscal year 1956. This program, financed in part by yen obtained in foreign currency sales and in part by U. S. and Japanese industry, is carrying out such activities as these:

- ...A cotton promotion campaign that is reawakening interest in the virtues of cotton in competition with synthetic fibers.
- ...An educational campaign to teach people the health values of wheat foods.
- ...Schools to train bakers to produce better bread and bakery products-- the training goal is 20,000 bakers a year.
- ...Solution of quality and trade-relation problems that were handicapping U. S. tallow exports to Japan.
- ...Participation in the Tokyo Trade Fair.
- ...Demonstration buses for teaching housewives how to prepare healthful, economical meals, especially wheat products.
- ...Training of 1,300 home demonstration agents, with emphasis on increasing the variety of healthful foods.

These activities help build broad consumer interest and preference for U. S. agricultural products.

* * *

On or about March 1 USDA will issue the first part of the 1955-crop cotton catalogue listing cotton acquired by the CCC as of the close of business December 31, 1956. The Department, within the next 2 or 3 months, expects to announce its cotton export policy for the 1957-58 marketing year which begins August 1.

* * *

Export sales of butter are now being resumed as supplies become available. With CCC purchases dwindling and all of its stocks committed last fall, CCC stopped selling butter on October 3. Sales resumption was announced on January 9 with export butter for unrestricted use priced at 39 cents per pound.

* * *

On January 9 the Department of Agriculture announced rigid enforcement plans for its recent 50 percent cut in price support of 1957 production of flue-cured tobacco varieties 139, 140, and 244. Generally, these varieties have met with disfavor in foreign markets because they lack sufficient flavor and aroma. This action should help encourage production of tobaccos desired by foreign markets.

Feed grain exports reflect lower foreign demand. July-December feed grain exports (excluding products) are estimated at 3.6 million short tons in 1956 compared with 4.4 million in 1955. December 1956 exports are estimated at 680 thousand, an increase over the 653 thousand in November 1956, but well behind the 785 thousand in December 1955. Reduced exports continued to reflect lower demand in Europe, where production of feed grains and stocks of nonmillable wheat were up, as well as larger supplies in other exporting countries.

Rice exports were at a record high in December. Estimates based largely on cargo loadings indicate that rice exports in December were close to 400 million pounds compared with 68 million in December 1955. Of the estimated 400 million pounds exported in December, about 350 million were under P.L. 480, mainly foreign currency sales to Indonesia, India, and Pakistan. In that month, the equivalent of 17 full cargoes of rice were shipped, amounting to about 170,000 metric tons, which is the largest monthly exports on record. July-December exports are estimated at 1.4 billion pounds in 1956 compared with 655 thousand in 1955. Soaring exports reflect a decrease in foreign exportable supplies.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

Soybean exports increase seasonally in December. July-December soybean exports of 44 million bushels in 1956 continued close to the high level of 1955 when exports totaled 47 million in the like period. December 1956 exports are estimated at 15 million bushels compared with 10 million in November 1956 and 13 million in December 1955. The high level of exports in December 1956 reflected strong foreign demand and the shipment of beans delayed by the November shipping strike.

Exports of soybean and cottonseed oils now running two-thirds above a year ago. July-December exports of soybean and cottonseed oils totaled about 670 million pounds in 1956 compared with 395 million in 1955, an increase of almost 70 percent. December 1956 exports are estimated at 170 million pounds, almost double the 87 million pounds exported in November 1956, and 50 percent more than the 124 million pounds exported in December 1955. Increased exports so far this fiscal year were due to larger shipments under Title I of P.L. 480, especially to Spain.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Variety of animal products contribute to overall 12-percent export gain. July-December exports of livestock products are estimated at \$290 million in 1956 compared with \$259 million in 1955. Increased exports of butter, cheese, nonfat dry milk solids, beef and veal, and variety meats were chief contributors to this gain. Tallow exports totaled about 650 million pounds compared with 585 million the year before; this increase reflected heavy slaughter rates and competitive pricing. Lard exports were below the previous year as domestic hog slaughter declined and prices rose.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Yugoslavian crop failure assists U. S. prune exports. July-November prune exports totaled 64 million pounds in 1956 compared with 32 million in 1955.

Yugoslavia has been the main export producing area outside of the United States, but due to a crop failure, it is exporting virtually none this marketing season.

Peaches and pineapple main items in increased canned fruit exports. July-November exports of canned fruits totaled 159 million pounds in 1956, one-half greater than the 107 million exported in 1955. The increases were in peaches, principally to the United Kingdom, and pineapples to West Germany and the Netherlands. Exports to the United Kingdom were under the ICA's Section 402 foreign currency sales program. The heavy demand for canned peaches reflected also in part the poor crop conditions last year in Australia, the other main exporting country.

Dry pea and bean exports continue at high levels. Dry bean exports in the July-November period this fiscal year were almost twice those last year, while dry pea exports were triple. Increased bean exports represented the last of CCC sales from the 1955 crop that was taken over in March 1956 and exported in the early part of this fiscal year. The large pea exports were mainly to Europe and resulted from the poor weather there at harvest time, similar to the condition that stimulated U. S. pea exports in 1954.

I M P O R T H I G H L I G H T S

Agricultural imports continue to decline. November agricultural imports totaled \$256 million in 1956 compared with \$360 million in 1955 and \$288 million in October 1956. November 1956 exports were the lowest since October 1954. Imports of complementary (noncompetitive) agricultural products declined from \$229 million in November 1955 to \$161 million in November 1956. Most of the reduction was the result of smaller coffee and cocoa bean imports. Rubber imports declined sharply in value although the quantity decrease was small. Imports of supplementary (competitive) agricultural commodities declined from \$130 million in November 1955 to \$95 million in November 1956. Sugar, barley, apparel wool, pork, and cotton figured prominently in the reduction.

July-November agricultural imports totaled 8 percent behind previous year. July-November agricultural imports totaled \$1,506 million in 1956 compared with \$1,633 million in 1955. Complementary imports fell 9 percent, from \$1,005 million to \$910 million, reflecting mainly less rubber, cocoa bean, carpet wool, and coffee imports. July-November supplementary imports totaled \$596 million in 1956, a 5-percent drop from the \$628 million in the like period of 1955. Largest decrease was in apparel wool; other decreases were in beef and veal, pork, cotton, olives, nuts, and sugar. Imports of feed grains, expressed vegetable oils, and tobacco increased.

Coffee imports showed more strength in December. Coffee arrivals in December 1956 are estimated at around 220 million pounds compared with imports in December 1955 of 250 million and in November 1956 of 182 million. The increase this past December was partly seasonal but also reflected settlement of the November waterfront strike. July-December imports are estimated at 1,320 million pounds, 7 percent less than the 1,412 million imported in 1955.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS: November 1955 and 1956 and July-November 1955 and 1956 a/

Commodity exported	Unit:	November		July-November	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1955	1956	1955	1956
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
			dollars		dollars
Cheese	Lb.	1,589	296	12,385	4,658
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	17,445	2,592	62,362	9,305
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	3,244	1,693	18,591	9,291
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	26,148	2,435	97,792	10,383
Eggs, in the shell	Doz.	6,090	2,213	27,706	10,313
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	2,349	645	13,448	3,450
Pork, total b/	Lb.	5,823	1,815	24,599	6,807
Lard, including shortenings (animal)	Lb.	66,559	8,725	219,426	28,687
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	94,768	7,930	497,221	40,307
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.) ...	Bales	145	25,950	594	105,560
Apples, fresh	Lb.	9,484	826	29,167	2,648
Oranges and tangerines	Lb.	37,809	1,945	240,115	12,615
Prunes, dried	Lb.	8,636	1,589	31,707	5,772
Raisins and currants	Lb.	13,180	1,537	68,119	7,115
Fruits, canned *	Lb.	19,546	3,043	107,083	17,014
Fruit juices *	Gal.	837	960	4,223	5,936
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	4,731	4,765	42,612	31,548
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	10,813	14,932	52,944	47,083
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu.	6,875	6,931	32,731	20,661
Rice, milled, excludes paddy	Lb.	119,537	7,701	596,566	40,380
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	14,702	23,234	81,349	171,239
Flour, wholly of U. S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	2,049	8,987	8,373	36,661
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Bu.	13,227	31,938	33,964	83,988
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	31,120	4,672	61,198	9,292
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	37,638	5,182	210,318	32,120
Tobacco, flue-cured	Lb.	53,978	36,295	296,734	218,363
Tobacco, leaf, other *	Lb.	9,831	6,182	34,032	21,985
Beans, dried	Lb.	13,810	996	76,839	6,016
Peas, dried (incl. cowpeas and chickpeas) ..	Lb.	5,344	470	18,189	1,601
Potatoes, white	Lb.	18,227	392	177,152	3,898
Vegetables, canned *	Lb.	8,838	1,473	39,489	5,638
Food exported for relief, etc.			14,067		46,161
Other agricultural commodities			64,908		265,732
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL			296,994		1,327,797
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES			1,310,544		6,425,781

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight.

* Composition of these groups includes only those classes which are separately classified in the Bureau of Census 1956 reporting Schedule G.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): November 1955 and July-November 1955 and 1956 a/

Commodity imported	Unit:	November				July-November			
		Quantity		Value		Quantity		Value	
		1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
SUPPLEMENTARY									
Cattle, dutiable	No.	7	18	1,000	1,000	Thousands	Thousands	1,000	1,000
Cheese	Lb.	6,890	5,332	3,819	2,576	21,669	23,601	3,013	4,299
Hides and skins	Lb.	9,042	7,479	4,206	3,189	51,251	49,687	21,575	21,425
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	12,150	10,853	3,573	2,618	59,965	53,266	18,276	13,919
Pork, total b/	Lb.	14,563	8,247	10,148	5,805	67,134	47,607	45,230	32,707
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	14,012	7,439	12,027	6,340	65,903	45,457	57,854	39,806
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintens (480 lb.)	Bale:	19	2	3,419	482	71	31	12,748	5,190
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton:	2	2	306	363	11	11	2,484	2,155
Olives in brine	Gal.	1,371	339	2,280	582	5,450	2,925	9,106	5,259
Pineapples, canned, prep. or preserved	Lb.	2,150	2,762	273	334	34,103	33,716	3,961	4,135
Pineapple juice	Gal.	0	73	0	31	1,230	1,953	464	719
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	5,781	2,159	7,701	2,908	11,121	14,067	14,747	19,044
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	168	1,138	257	993	1,105	3,827	1,136	3,305
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	595	467	966	734	2,260	1,732	3,559	2,747
Feeds and fodders	Bu.	c/	c/	949	1,191	c/	c/	4,293	4,876
Nuts and preparations	Lb.	c/	c/	6,641	4,772	c/	c/	32,674	27,037
Copra	Lb.	46,803	73,567	2,955	4,520	291,930	288,792	18,604	18,031
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	44,317	41,570	6,175	6,145	178,596	197,291	26,155	30,678
Seeds, field and garden	Lb.	c/	c/	2,376	1,407	c/	c/	8,294	5,427
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton:	273	141	27,899	14,861	1,625	1,590	171,980	168,031
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	20,121	10,164	1,899	955	116,657	77,409	10,777	7,654
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	7,379	7,580	5,101	5,320	35,918	38,743	24,559	27,653
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,042	1,178	1,628	1,831	6,033	5,852	8,819	8,810
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	1,290	2,559	57	185	4,231	4,233	231	298
Other supplementary				25,071	25,990			115,536	130,025
Total supplementary				130,347	95,368			627,626	595,540
COMPLEMENTARY									
Silk, raw	Lb.	880	852	3,791	3,584	3,457	3,372	14,918	14,087
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	10,594	12,116	6,869	7,649	81,022	72,080	49,283	43,355
Bananas	Funch:	3,715	3,673	5,547	5,290	19,276	18,131	27,590	26,628
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	283,270	181,730	138,342	93,869	1,161,861	1,102,475	578,325	542,317
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	47,712	25,871	13,987	6,103	190,831	159,689	59,650	38,220
Tea	Lb.	9,460	4,777	4,932	2,556	42,325	37,201	20,683	18,138
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	6,360	6,705	2,149	2,031	33,008	38,075	12,566	13,022
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton:	10	9	1,534	1,320	53	46	8,410	6,893
Rubber, crude	Lb.	113,531	111,456	43,217	30,394	564,445	508,323	188,875	136,576
Other complementary				9,111	7,837			44,693	71,013
Total complementary				229,479	160,633			1,004,993	910,249
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES				359,826	256,001			1,632,619	1,505,789
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				1,051,554	909,195			4,853,780	5,211,760

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES

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APR 25 1957
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FEBRUARY 1957

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EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

July-January agricultural exports up 45 percent in value and 51 percent in quantity compared with a year earlier. Exports in the 7 months from July through January are estimated at \$2.75 billion this year and \$1.9 billion last year. July-January export quantity index (1952-54 average = 100) rose from 113 last year to 170 this year. Major value shifts: Cotton up more than three times. Wheat double. Feed grains and tobacco each down one-fifth. Oilseeds and vegetable oils larger by nearly one-fifth. Fruits and vegetables up nearly one-third. Livestock products up about one-tenth.

January's shipments seasonally less than December's. Exports are estimated at \$450 million in January 1957 compared with \$258 million a year earlier and \$542 million in December 1956. Exports normally decline from December to

January. Compared with a year earlier, January 1957 exports were up 74 percent in value and 88 percent in quantity. Cotton, wheat, rice, soybeans, soybean oil, and tallow were larger; feed grains, tobacco, cottonseed oil, and lard, smaller. Two-thirds of the increase in value over a year earlier was due to larger cotton exports.

Economic activity and export programs underlie record export rate. Exports in the first 7 months of the current fiscal year ran at an annual rate of \$4.7 billion. Principal stimulants to this year's high rate of exports are the strong economic activity abroad and expanded Government export programs. Other major factors abroad are supply shortages, increased dollar receipts, and rising populations.

July-January Agricultural Exports

Commodity	1955-56	1956-57	% chg.
	- \$ million -		
Cotton.....	150	630	+320
Grains and feeds..	606	880	+ 45
Tobacco leaf.....	284	230	- 19
Veg. oils, oilseeds	239	280	+ 18
Fruits and vogs. .	172	225	+ 31
Livestock products	310	345	+ 11
Private relief 2/.	80	80	--
Other.....	55	80	+ 45
Total.....	1,896	2,750	+ 45

Quantity index
(1952-54 = 100)

Total.....	113	170	+ 51
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1/ Partly estimated. 2/ Mostly CCC donations to U. S. private welfare agencies for overseas needy.

COTTON

January 1957 cotton exports estimated at 5-year high. Exports (excluding linters) in January 1957 are estimated from trade sources at over 1 million bales of 480 pounds each. Previous month in which shipments went over 1 million bales was December 1951, when exports were stimulated by the Korean War. January shipments this year contrasted sharply with the 81 thousand bales a year earlier. Marketing year total through January is estimated at 4,140 thousand bales this year compared with 779 thousand last year. Principal stimulants: Stabilized prices under the CCC export program and high rate of foreign mill activity. Bulk of the gain was to Japan, India, Canada, and top markets in Europe.

TOBACCO

Export demand for tobacco still weaker than a year ago. Exports are estimated at 30 million pounds in January 1957 compared with 46 million a year earlier and 57 million in December 1956. Exports are estimated at 341 million pounds for the 7-month period beginning July 1956 compared with 424 million a year earlier. The United Kingdom--principal foreign outlet--has taken less leaf this year following last year's heavy purchases under P.L. 480, mainly for stock replenishment. In addition, while export demand remains fairly strong, the domestic demand for heavier-bodied leaf has almost pushed prices out of the range of many foreign buyers.

GRAINS

January 1957, 11th month in which wheat shipments surpassed year-ago level. Exports (including grain equivalent of flour) are estimated from inspections at 50 million bushels in January 1957 compared with 23 million a year earlier. July-January total is estimated at 295 million bushels this marketing year and 147 million last year. Chief factors: Sales for foreign currencies and barter transactions. In addition, Europe had a poor crop last year, and France and Turkey have been for the most part out of the export market.

European feed grain import needs smaller. Exports of oats, barley, corn, and sorghum grains are estimated from inspections at 425 thousand short tons in January 1957 compared with 555 thousand a year earlier. July-January total is estimated at 3.9 million tons this marketing year and 4.9 million last year. Principal declines were in sorghum grains and barley. Europe has heavy local supplies of low quality wheat, increased plantings of feed grains to replace winter-killed wheat, and an unprecedented exportable surplus of barley in France.

January 1957 rice exports at 8-month low. Exports (excluding paddy) estimated at 90 million pounds in January 1957--lowest level since May 1956--compared with 30 million a year earlier and 403 million in December 1956, when more than 100 million pounds each were shipped to India, Indonesia, and Pakistan. For the most part, increased shipments to Indonesia and Pakistan--necessitated by short crops--were partly offset by reduced shipments to Japan, which is not currently importing any rice from the United States after 2 years of bumper crops. Much of the rice moving out this year is under P.L. 480.

TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

February 28, 1957

First publication devoted exclusively to FAS export market development tasks is just off the press. Developing Foreign Markets for U. S. Farm Products describes the job of maintaining, regaining, and building markets abroad for the products of U. S. agriculture.

Here are a few examples of numerous accomplishments mentioned:

Reducing foreign trade barriers:

- ...Following efforts of a cotton marketing specialist, Italy recently modified the import duty on U. S. cotton to make it comparable to duties on other growths.
- ...After several years' U. S. efforts to facilitate marketing of soybeans in West Germany, that country liberalized imports.
- ...Reductions in import duties were obtained from Denmark, Canada, Germany, and Haiti on U. S. field seed and grain products in negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Private trade activities:

- ...An American Meat Institute representative is working full time in Western Europe to develop markets for U. S. livestock and meat products.
- ...The U. S. rice industry has set up the United States Rice Development Corporation for the purpose of participating in market development work.

Market information and services:

- ...In March 1956, World Import Duties on Dairy Products was published to analyze import charges of foreign countries on U. S. products.
- ...FAS is sending U. S. agricultural attachés copies of the National Provisioner's "Daily Yellow Sheet" containing Chicago prices for all types of meat products for use in developing sales abroad.
- ...FAS sends the U. S. fruit industries weekly reports on foreign auction prices and notices of spot market opportunities.
- ...U. S. agricultural attachés have been furnished with sample kits for use in building up foreign consumer interest in U. S. grains.

A companion publication, The Competitive Position of U. S. Farm Products Abroad, 1957, summarizes the problems and barriers that U. S. exporters face in exporting farm products. It's a timely reminder that foreign

competition has not become insignificant despite present high levels of U. S. agricultural exports.

...For grains, the study shows that price is no longer the outstanding factor affecting the competitive status of U. S. grains in world markets. In importing countries, there are also such things as compulsory use of home-grown grains, bilateral trade agreements, government import monopolies, producer subsidies, and subsidies to local flour millers. In exporting countries, factors include state export monopolies, sales on special terms, and bilateral agreements.

...For cotton, on the other hand, the report highlights CCC's competitive pricing program as the most important single factor contributing to the currently improved competitive position for U. S. cotton.

* * *

A continuation of CCC's export programs for upland cotton and cotton products through the 1957-58 marketing year was announced by USDA on February 19. Cotton sales under this year's program have slowed down pending publication March 15 of 1955-crop catalog.

* * *

Peru has been granted a \$2.25 million credit by the Export-Import Bank to purchase 30,000 tons of U. S. wheat. Credit comes under cooperative program with USDA to aid export sales of surplus commodities.

Further easing of foreign restrictions that affect U. S. farm exports:

Sweden: Fats and oils and oleomargarine.

Talks between U. S. representatives and the Polish economic delegation began this week in Washington. Although there is no official announcement on the nature of the discussions, press reports prior to the meeting indicated a Polish interest in obtaining a number of U. S. agricultural commodities.

* * *

U. S. Tariff Commission, after investigation, has recommended against imposition of import restrictions on dates under Section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act as amended.

* * *

USDA and U. S. dairy cattle breeders have been cooperating this past year to expand exports of U. S. dairy cattle. Progress includes preparation of Guide to Buying U. S. Dairy Cattle and modification of USDA bulletins Care and Management of Dairy Cattle and Breeds of Dairy Cattle for translation into Spanish and Portuguese.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

Spain big factor in greater soybean and cottonseed oil exports. Exports are estimated at 140 million pounds in January 1957 compared with 104 million a year earlier. October-January total is estimated at 490 million pounds this marketing year and 330 million last year. Heavy shipments under P.L. 480 and ICA programs, particularly to Spain, got underway earlier this marketing year than last. Depleted stocks of edible oils and expanded consumption have made it necessary for Spain to import large quantities for the second year in a row.

The Netherlands lead in soybean export gain. With January inspections this year 2 million bushels above exports last year, October-January total is estimated at 45 million bushels this marketing year compared with 42 million last year. Bulk of the increase was to the Netherlands; exports to Canada also were larger. Shipments to Japan, largest customer, were stepped up in January, following a slow start, and are now about equal to exports during October-January 1955-56. Exports to West Germany ran at last year's level.

ANIMAL FATS

Lard exports continued behind a year earlier in January 1957. Total of 40 million pounds compared with 65 million a year earlier. Calendar year shipments aggregated 612 million pounds in 1956 and 562 million in 1955. October-December 1956 and January 1957 shipments were somewhat less than a year earlier due mainly to higher export prices following reduced domestic hog slaughter. For the most part, however, U. S. lard's high quality and competitive position in the international market stimulated last year's exports. Government programs have helped in raising sales volume. Main customers last year were Cuba, the United Kingdom, Yugoslavia, and West Germany. Yugoslavia accounted for the largest gain.

Quality and price aided in new record for tallow exports. Exports of inedible tallow and greases are estimated at 110 million pounds in January 1957 compared with 127 million a year earlier. Calendar year total was a record 1,488 million pounds in 1956 and 1,294 million in 1955. Exports have shown an almost steady rise since the end of World War II. Increased foreign use of U. S. tallow in soap because of its high quality and relatively low price helped set the new record. Top markets were Italy, the Netherlands, Japan, and West Germany. Largest single increase last year was for Italy.

MEATS

Competitive pricing and export programs expand meat exports. Calendar year total of 322 million pounds (product weight) in 1956--highest in 9 years--compared with 228 million in 1955. All categories registered gains: Beef and veal, 40 million pounds, doubled; pork, 10 million, up 14 percent; and other (mainly variety meats), 44 million, up 36 percent. Much frozen beef went to Spain under ICA and P.L. 480; to Israel under P.L. 480. Pork exports have been favored by relatively low domestic prices, particularly in the first half of the year. More variety meats were shipped principally to West Germany and the Netherlands; relatively low prices improved sales opportunities.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

Bulk of 1956 condensed milk exports was to Indochina. Calendar year total rose from 8 million pounds in 1955 to 40 million in 1956--a 7-year high and second year of recovery from the drop to 2 million pounds in 1954 when the Philippine market was lost. Most recent gains arose from the use of ICA funds. Largest market in 1956 was Indochina, almost 35 million pounds.

Far East taking more U. S. nonfat dry milk solids. Calendar year total (exclusive of donations to private relief agencies) increased from 231 million pounds in 1955 to a record 307 million in 1956. Largest gains were in shipments to the Far East, with Japan and Korea each taking more than 50 million pounds. Large increases in exports in the past 3 years reflected the influence of Government programs and government-to-government sales at concessional prices.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

U. S. orange exports heavy. December was the second month in which fresh orange shipments were considerably above a year earlier. Heavy November and December export volume reflected the short supply of winter oranges in Europe because of Spain's freeze-damaged industry.

Dried pea exports continue to reflect strong European demand. Exports in December 1956 were more than double the quantity a year earlier. Exports ran ahead of a year ago every month in the July-December period. Europe's harvest weather was poor.

I M P O R T H I G H L I G H T S

July-December decline greater for noncompetitive than competitive imports. Agricultural imports in the July-December period totaled \$1,814 million in 1956 compared with \$1,952 million in 1955. Complementary (noncompetitive) value declined by \$107 million--mainly coffee, cocoa beans, and natural rubber. Foreign prices were lower for cocoa beans and rubber. The decline in supplementary (competitive) imports--commodities like, or similar in use to, products of U. S. agriculture--amounted to \$31 million. Major commodities in the reduction were apparel wool, pork, cotton, olives, and molasses unfit for human consumption--commodities that have been running behind a year ago for several months. Main increase was in barley.

Coffee inventories maintained by increased imports. Coffee arrivals in January 1957 are estimated at 280 million pounds compared with imports a year earlier of 249 million. January imports increased somewhat the December 31 stock levels, but reflected primarily increased consumption over the same period of 1956. July 1956-January 1957 imports are estimated at 1,600 million pounds compared with 1,661 million a year earlier.

Increased usage seen in cocoa bean import rise. Cocoa bean arrivals are estimated at 75 million pounds in January 1957 compared with imports of 71 million a year earlier. Imports were up in December also. Several factors are indicated: Increased domestic usage influenced somewhat by lower foreign prices, the dockworkers' strike in November, and the Suez crisis. Despite the recent rise, July 1956-January 1957 total of 280 million pounds was 23 million less than a year ago.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS: December 1955 and 1956 and July-December 1955 and 1956 a/

Commodity exported	Unit	December		July-December	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1955	1956	1955	1956
Cheese	Lb.	4,176	4,067	Thousands	Thousands
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	12,243	20,211	1,093	1,858
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	5,938	2,776	1,807	3,187
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	4,701	42,700	3,092	1,293
Eggs, in the shell	Doz.	5,672	8,431	552	3,070
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	3,743	14,264	2,920	3,519
Pork, total b/	Lb.	6,358	8,726	1,127	4,684
Lard, incl. shortenings, (animal)	Lb.	69,868	47,954	1,639	2,685
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	87,961	136,829	8,776	7,286
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale	166	975	7,614	11,316
Apples, fresh	Lb.	17,951	12,078	30,086	142,891
Oranges and tangerines	Lb.	37,838	81,610	1,555	1,201
Prunes, dried	Lb.	6,811	12,403	2,440	4,615
Raisins and currants	Lb.	16,775	16,765	1,307	1,975
Fruits, canned *	Lb.	21,478	18,250	1,870	2,338
Fruit juices *	Gal.	833	1,197	3,341	2,703
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Pu.	7,381	2,571	984	1,341
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	12,311	15,485	8,122	3,082
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu.	8,065	2,362	17,259	23,301
Rice, milled, excludes paddy	Lb.	68,452	403,040	8,525	2,798
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	15,984	43,666	6,045	28,837
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	1,936	3,179	25,745	77,730
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Bu.	12,670	15,879	8,070	13,299
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	54,704	99,603	30,374	40,557
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	68,955	68,655	8,525	15,127
Tobacco, flue-cured	Lb.	38,720	45,732	8,475	10,444
Tobacco, leaf, other *	Lb.	5,553	8,603	25,704	32,013
Beans, dried	Lb.	11,772	13,597	3,636	5,806
Peas, dried (incl. cowpeas & chickpeas)	Lb.	6,650	12,096	861	1,084
Potatoes, white	Lb.	15,792	19,202	551	829
Vegetables, canned *	Lb.	4,802	7,793	353	474
Food exported for relief, etc.				695	1,036
Other agricultural commodities				21,929	15,719
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL				64,475	73,429
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				309,547	541,627
a/ Preliminary.				1,392,029	1,980,974
b/ Product weight.					

* Composition of these groups includes only those classes which are separately classified in the Bureau of Census 1956 reporting schedule G.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

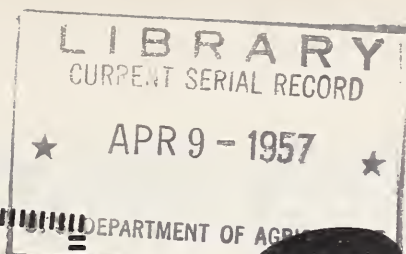
IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): December 1955 and 1956 and July-December 1955 and 1956 a/

Commodity Imported	Unit:	December		Value		Quantity		Value	
		1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars	Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
SUPPLEMENTARY									
Cattle, dutiable	No.	18	29	1,188	1,507	45	76	4,200	5,805
Cheese	Lb.	5,795	5,598	2,926	2,966	27,463	29,199	14,478	15,276
Hides and skins	Lb.	8,004	9,073	3,785	3,661	59,255	58,760	25,360	25,085
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	6,913	11,145	2,012	2,624	66,878	64,411	20,288	16,543
Pork, total b/	Lb.	11,782	10,714	8,235	7,654	78,916	58,321	53,465	40,361
Wool, unmfd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	12,959	10,004	10,666	8,954	78,862	55,592	68,519	48,893
Cotton, unmfd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale:	18	10	3,681	2,692	89	42	16,428	7,882
Jute and jute butts, unmfd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	6	6	1,150	1,232	17	16	3,634	3,388
Olives in brine	Gal.	1,153	654	1,882	1,135	6,603	3,579	10,989	6,394
Pineapples, canned, prep. or preserved	Lb.	2,776	5,718	287	589	36,879	39,434	4,248	4,724
Pineapple juice	Gal.	108	537	36	81	1,337	2,491	503	801
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	2,068	2,485	2,661	3,541	13,189	16,552	17,408	22,585
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	195	1,090	276	949	1,300	4,917	1,413	4,253
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	908	1,325	1,390	2,169	3,168	3,058	4,949	4,917
Feeds and fodders	c/	c/	c/	785	1,147	c/	c/	5,078	6,023
Nuts and preparations	Lb.	44,536	46,969	5,696	4,485	c/	c/	38,386	31,522
Copra	Lb.	42,944	35,825	2,914	3,023	336,466	335,761	21,518	21,054
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	c/	c/	6,473	5,688	220,853	233,116	32,628	36,365
Seeds, field and garden	c/	c/	c/	2,154	1,804	c/	c/	10,448	7,231
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	186	174	18,919	18,587	1,811	1,764	190,899	185,607
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	30,042	10,574	2,918	1,120	146,699	87,983	13,695	8,774
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	5,751	5,488	4,032	3,841	41,669	44,231	28,591	31,495
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	575	1,056	935	1,105	6,608	6,908	9,753	9,914
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	878	13,702	48	1,072	5,109	17,934	279	1,371
Other supplementary				24,043	28,501			139,579	159,705
Total supplementary				109,094	110,127			736,736	705,968
COMPLEMENTARY									
Silk, raw	Lb.	802	594	3,320	2,524	4,259	3,966	18,238	16,611
Wool, unmfd., free in bond	Lb.	12,280	10,541	7,010	6,305	93,302	82,621	56,293	49,659
Bananas	Bunch:	3,400	3,466	5,125	5,090	22,676	21,597	32,716	31,717
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	249,679	219,461	123,464	115,785	1,411,540	1,321,936	701,789	658,101
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	41,355	46,586	12,445	11,516	232,187	206,275	72,094	49,536
Tea	Lb.	6,718	10,344	3,621	5,655	49,044	47,545	24,304	23,793
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	5,873	7,193	2,900	2,826	38,880	45,269	15,465	15,848
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	14	13	2,251	1,939	67	58	10,664	8,832
Rubber, crude	Lb.	108,436	129,143	41,559	36,247	673,175	637,970	230,525	172,950
Other complementary				8,540	9,414			53,208	80,604
Total complementary				210,235	197,301			1,215,296	1,107,651
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES				319,329	307,428			1,952,032	1,813,619
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				998,936	1,045,059			5,852,716	6,256,819

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

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FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES

Digest

MARCH 1957

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

July-February agricultural exports gain 48 percent in value and 53 percent in quantity over a year ago. With 8 months of the 1956-57 fiscal year gone by, July-February total stands at an estimated \$3.2 billion contrasted with \$2.1 billion a year ago. Export quantity index (1952-54 average = 100) is 170 this year compared with 111 last year. Value increases in the major commodity groups: Cotton, $3\frac{1}{2}$ times; grains, 46 percent; vegetable oils and oilseeds, 29 percent; fruits and vegetables, 20 percent; livestock products, 5 percent. Among the grains, wheat (including flour) was almost double in value; rice, more than double; but feed grains totaled 8 percent less.

Tobacco was down 17 percent.

July-February Agricultural Exports

Commodity	1955-56	1956-57 ¹	% chg.
	- \$ million -		
Cotton.....	168	765	+355
Grains and feeds..	688	1,005	+ 46
Tobacco leaf.....	302	250	- 17
Veg. oils, oilseeds	268	345	+ 29
Fruits and vegs. .	197	240	+ 20
Livestock products	365	390	+ 5
Private relief ² /.	95	90	- 5
Other.....	64	95	+ 50
Total.....	2,147	3,180	+ 48
	(1952-54 = 100)		
Quantity index....	111	170	+ 53

¹/ Partly estimated. ²/ Mostly CCC donations to U. S. private welfare agencies for overseas needy.

This year's exports setting new value and quantity records. The July-February value this year surpassed the previous high of \$2,822 million in 1951-52 by 13 percent. In quantity, exports this year were running about one-third ahead of the 1951-52 period.

This February's exports well ahead of last. Exports are estimated at \$450 million in the short month of February 1957 compared with \$243 million a year earlier and \$422 million in January 1957. Compared with a year ago, this February's exports were up 87 percent in value and 89 percent in quantity. Nearly 70 percent of the value gain is attributable to cotton. Other notable increases were in wheat, rice,

soybeans, and soybean oil. Feed grains, cottonseed oil, and animal fats were down. Less tobacco moved out but at a higher average price. There was a sharp reduction in flaxseed exports.

Minor countries prominent in export gain. Based on latest country information, many more or less minor markets are sharing heavily in this year's expansion in exports, now headed toward a total of about \$4.5 billion. Through October, exports to the top 10 markets of last fiscal year--the United Kingdom, Japan, West Germany, Canada, the Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, Cuba, Italy, and Yugoslavia--showed a gain of 23 percent, while the rise for all other countries amounted to 62 percent. Striking increases among the lesser outlets included those for France, Pakistan, Korea, India, Switzerland, Greece, and Israel--all of which took less than \$100 million worth of agricultural commodities in fiscal year 1955-56.

Government programs important export stimulant. Supplementing the accelerated economic activity around the world, U. S. Government programs have become a sizable factor in the expanded exports. Commodities moving under programs in the July-December period--latest for which data are available--accounted for 42 percent of total agricultural shipments. Major programs were foreign currency and barter sales, followed by welfare and relief donations and credit sales.

COTTON

February 1957 cotton exports estimated at 5-year high. Huge quantities of cotton have continued to move abroad at competitive prices as the result of CCC's export sales program, principally to replace stocks that were relatively low at the season's start and to meet the day-to-day requirements of greater mill activity. Exports (excluding linters) this February are estimated by FAS at more than 1 million bales of 480 pounds each. Previous month in which shipments went over 1 million bales was December 1951, when exports were stimulated by the Korean War. February shipments this year contrasted sharply with 104 thousand bales a year ago. August-February total is estimated at over 5 million bales this marketing year, almost 6 times the 883 thousand last year. Increases were sharp for nearly all countries, particularly Japan, the United Kingdom, and West Germany.

TOBACCO

Larger stocks abroad, higher export prices here, weaken foreign demand for tobacco. An estimated 27 million pounds of tobacco leaf moved into export this February compared with about 29 million each in January 1957 and February 1956. Exports have run less than a year ago in nearly every month so far this season, reflecting mainly reduced shipments to Britain following last year's heavy purchases for stock rebuilding, and smaller shipments to the Philippines, the Benelux countries, and Australia. Many foreign buyers have been unable to pay this year's higher prices asked for heavier bodied leaf. July-February exports totaled 366 million pounds this marketing year, one-fifth below a year ago.

TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

March 29, 1957

Market development case history:

Up to the middle of last year, Japanese importers of U. S. tallow had been complaining about short weight and poor quality. Partly financed by P.L. 480 foreign currency funds, a study was made that has cleared up the dissatisfaction and strengthened our place in the Japanese tallow market. Japanese buyers largely adopted U. S. standards for determining weight and quality, while U. S. exporters improved their handling and testing.

Effectiveness of the project is illustrated by a recent letter from Japan expressing pleasure with the marked improvement in U. S. tallow quality.

This is one of 62 projects under Section 104(a) market development operations. Total effort includes 22 countries, 9 commodity groups. Of approximately \$9 million worth of foreign currencies involved, FAS has provided about 60 percent; cooperators, both U. S. and foreign, about 40.

* * *

A new school lunch promotion project is being sponsored in Japan by the Japanese Nutrition Association and the Oregon Wheat Growers League in cooperation with FAS to point out advantages of school lunches to the people in rural areas. Section 104(a) is helping by sending wheat and dairy product specialists to serve as consultants.

Of 12 million primary school children in Japan, 5 million, mostly farm children, are still not covered by the school lunch program. Further increases in the Japanese market for wheat and nonfat dry milk can result from the project. Annual requirements could increase 10,000 metric tons for wheat flour and 2,000 metric tons for nonfat dry milk.

While these market development projects indicate future opportunities, current prospects for U. S. agricultural exports to Japan continue to be favorable. The Japanese Economic Planning Board estimates that imports of textile raw materials will increase in the fiscal year beginning April 1 compared with the fiscal year now ending; other agricultural commodities will remain the same.

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Our share of the United Kingdom's agricultural import market in 1956 was marked by impressive value gains for several major commodities. Our grain share went up from 22 percent in 1955 to 26 percent in 1956;

cotton, up from 27 to 30 percent; fruits and vegetables, up from 4 to 6 percent. Our share in tobacco import value was off a bit, from 53 to 52 percent. In total, British agricultural imports from us moved up to \$510 million in 1956 compared with \$460 million in 1955.

Further easing of foreign restrictions that affect U. S. farm exports:

...Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland: Wheat, cotton, infants' food, butter, vinegar, barley, corn, eggs, tapioca, sago, and arrowroot.

...Ecuador: Cut tobacco.

Starting March 1, for the first time, the Canadian Wheat Board is subsidizing its flour exports. The subsidy is aimed at improving Canada's competitive position, especially in the Philippine and Latin American markets.

* * *

Traders' news:

...On May 2, the Tariff Commission will hold Section 22 hearings on imports of tung oil.

...On April 15, the Tariff Commission will hold hearings on continuation of "escape clause" action in regard to alsike clover seed.

...On March 11, the Tariff Commission recommended that imports of butter oil and other butter substitutes be limited under Section 22 to 450,000 pounds April 1-June 30, 1957, and thereafter to 1,800,000 pounds a year starting July 1.

...Starting March 27, the Chicago CSS Commodity Office will receive first bids for the export sale of CCC-owned pea and red kidney beans from the 1956 crop.

...The Export-Import Bank has announced new credits for the purchase of U. S. agricultural commodities as follows: West Germany, \$4 million for bread grains, feed grains, crude vegetable oils, and soybeans; Austria, \$8 million for long staple, high grade cotton.

...On March 13, the World Bank announced a \$5 million loan to Peru, in part for purchase of livestock. (Under a Section 104(a) market development project, FAS specialists have been working to expand the market for U. S. breeding stock in Peru.)

GRAINS

Wheat exports have unusually good season. February 1957 shipments (including flour) are estimated close to the 48 million bushels moved a month earlier and nearly double the February 1956 volume. July-February total is about 340 million bushels this season, almost double the 172 million last. (Canada's wheat exports in the same period increased 28 percent.) Improved export demand followed reduced production and lowered quality of Northern Europe's crop. Countries which imported nearly 100 million bushels from France last year are obtaining more from the United States this year. France itself has taken substantially more. The general unrest in the Middle East has caused some European countries to increase reserve stocks above normal levels. U. S. prices are competitive, with a wide choice of good quality.

Feed grain supplies in Europe are ample. Exports are estimated at 380 thousand short tons this February compared with 472 thousand a year ago. Corn increases were more than offset by reductions in other items. July-February total of 4.4 million tons this season was 18 percent less than the 5.4 million tons last season, principally in sorghum grains. Smaller U. S. feed grain exports have reflected heavy supplies of nonmillable wheat and increased output of feed grains in Europe.

Asia accounting for this year's rice export gain. Exports (excluding paddy) are estimated at 125 million pounds this February compared with 47 million a year ago. August-February total is approximately 1,430 million pounds this season contrasted with 607 million last. Bulk of the increase is attributed to unusually large shipments to Indonesia, Pakistan, and India under P.L. 480. Indonesia and Pakistan suffered short crops; India is building up stocks. Japan, after 2 years of bumper crops, is taking much less U. S. rice this season. Cuba's take continues close to last year's level.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

Increased Spanish needs aid oil exports. Exports of cottonseed and soybean oils are estimated at 125 million pounds this February compared with 100 million a year earlier and 141 million in January 1957. Exports since October have run well ahead of last year, due mainly to early shipments to Spain, which, for the second year in a row, needs sizable imports of edible oils. October-February total estimated at 615 million pounds this season--substantially the result of foreign currency sales--compared with 431 million last.

Netherlands accounting for larger soybean exports. February 1957 was the fourth month this season in which soybean exports exceeded a year ago. October-February total is estimated at 49 million bushels this marketing year, 5 million ahead of last. Bulk of the increase was to the Netherlands.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Higher lard prices bring about export reduction. January-February total is estimated at 75 million pounds this year compared with 114 million last.

Exports started to fall last October due mainly to higher export prices and increased domestic use of lard in shortening.

Tallow exports were well maintained. Exports of inedible tallow and greases are estimated about the same this February as the 122 million pounds a year ago. January-February total of about 235 million this year is 14 million under last. The high quality and relatively low export price still make tallow one of our "best sellers."

Export programs stimulate beef shipments. Exports of beef and veal increased to 28 million pounds (product weight) in January 1957, four times the volume moved a year ago. For all of calendar 1956, exports were 81 million, double the 1955 volume. The spectacular increase is attributable to frozen beef shipments to Spain and Israel under Government programs.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

January takers of nonfat dry milk solids last year less prominent this year. January exports of nonfat dry milk solids (exclusive of donations to private welfare agencies) declined from 23 million pounds last year to 9 million this year. Korea, Italy, Brazil, and France, which accounted for 17 million pounds a year ago, took none this year. Japan and the Philippines, other important takers a year ago, obtained considerably less this year. Two countries gaining great prominence this year over last were India and Denmark.

FRUITS

Short crops and trade liberalization abroad stimulate prune exports. September-January total for prune exports is 40 thousand short tons this year. Short European crops coupled with dollar liberalization by importing countries are the main factors in the increase. A large share of the increase--25 percent--was to countries which liberalized their imports last fall. Half the export movement was to liberalized European countries. It's not often that the effect of liberalization is so striking.

I M P O R T H I G H L I G H T S

July-January import decline affects competitive items much less than noncompetitive items. Agricultural imports through January this fiscal year have been behind a year earlier in all but 2 months. The January decline amounted to \$2 million. July-January total of \$2,189 million this year is 6 percent less than a year earlier. Pork, apparel wool, cotton, olives in brine, and molasses unfit for human consumption--all running behind a year ago for several months--predominated in the \$26 million competitive decline. On the other hand, smaller imports of carpet wool, cocoa beans, and rubber made a sizable contribution to the \$115 million drop in noncompetitive imports.

Coffee imports rise again in February. February arrivals are estimated at 310 million pounds this year compared with 288 million last. July-February total, 1,900 million pounds, is 48 million less than a year ago.

Cocoa bean arrivals down in February. Arrivals of 40 million pounds compared with imports of 59 million a year ago. Fiscal year to date is 9 percent less.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS: January 1956 and 1957 and July-January 1955-56 and 1956-57 a/

Commodity exported	Unit:	January			July-January				
		Quantity		Value	Quantity		Value		
		1956	1957	1956	1957	1955-56	1956-57		
		Thousands <td>Thousands<td>dollars<td>dollars<td>Thousands<td>Thousands<td>dollars<td>dollars</td></td></td></td></td></td></td>	Thousands <td>dollars<td>dollars<td>Thousands<td>Thousands<td>dollars<td>dollars</td></td></td></td></td></td>	dollars <td>dollars<td>Thousands<td>Thousands<td>dollars<td>dollars</td></td></td></td></td>	dollars <td>Thousands<td>Thousands<td>dollars<td>dollars</td></td></td></td>	Thousands <td>Thousands<td>dollars<td>dollars</td></td></td>	Thousands <td>dollars<td>dollars</td></td>	dollars <td>dollars</td>	dollars
Cheese	Lb.	4,365	5,420	1,662	2,151	20,926	8,367	7,413	11,760
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	16,273	15,847	2,467	2,512	90,878	106,846	13,579	17,030
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	2,015	4,418	1,019	1,987	26,545	22,344	13,403	10,954
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	22,925	9,136	3,034	1,344	125,419	181,515	14,032	18,283
Eggs, in the shell	Doz.	2,362	3,097	1,211	1,195	35,739	73,407	14,445	12,455
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	6,881	27,827	1,873	9,812	24,072	73,407	6,450	24,239
Pork, total b/	Lb.	8,386	9,420	1,714	2,525	39,342	44,498	10,160	12,617
Lard, incl. shortenings, (animal)	Lb.	65,355	37,829	7,793	5,904	354,649	301,449	45,256	42,102
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	114,598	97,282	10,027	8,361	699,780	746,924	57,948	59,788
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale:	81	819	14,682	121,211	841	4,079	150,328	603,074
Apples, fresh	Lb.	14,630	13,107	1,116	1,134	61,748	58,839	5,320	5,308
Oranges and tangerines	Lb.	37,135	49,978	2,089	2,847	315,088	392,363	17,144	22,344
Prunes, dried	Lb.	5,738	12,465	1,076	1,950	44,256	88,578	8,155	14,387
Raisins and currants	Lb.	17,700	9,338	1,941	1,317	102,594	81,663	10,926	11,420
Fruits, canned *	Lb.	13,152	15,335	2,032	2,320	141,712	192,999	22,387	28,137
Fruit juices *	Gal.	1,495	1,453	1,844	1,560	6,552	7,371	8,764	10,051
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	4,319	2,896	4,999	3,516	54,312	37,015	57,086	43,783
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	8,507	12,738	12,032	19,585	73,762	75,493	108,071	115,736
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu.	6,023	1,240	6,423	1,605	46,820	24,263	48,364	28,742
Rice, milled, excludes paddy	Lb.	30,362	109,753	2,544	8,000	695,380	1,478,454	48,969	104,034
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	21,541	43,135	37,314	74,667	119,184	257,838	199,604	435,591
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	1,686	2,285	7,426	10,111	11,994	15,211	52,157	64,426
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Bu.	6,794	7,925	16,622	20,424	53,428	52,023	130,984	132,820
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	47,389	91,864	7,364	14,714	163,292	515,595	25,181	80,909
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	56,328	49,460	7,371	7,275	335,601	283,703	47,966	42,793
Tobacco, flue-cured	Lb.	38,863	24,392	24,673	17,167	374,317	288,753	253,216	198,049
Tobacco, leaf, other *	Lb.	7,118	5,075	4,218	3,491	46,703	44,618	29,839	29,652
Beans, dried	Lb.	12,127	6,772	853	553	100,738	149,996	7,730	9,715
Peas, dried (incl. cowpeas & chickpeas)	Lb.	3,597	7,747	302	602	28,436	81,521	2,724	5,415
Potatoes, white	Lb.	18,048	20,232	434	591	210,992	174,657	4,684	5,880
Vegetables, canned *	Lb.	9,565	10,582	1,184	1,308	53,855	69,437	7,517	9,840
Food exported for relief, etc.				11,750	10,217			79,840	78,792
Other agricultural commodities				57,009	59,863			387,318	432,940
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL				258,098	421,819			1,896,960	2,723,066
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				1,266,643	1,662,338			9,090,724	11,435,631

a/ Preliminary.

Product weight.
b/

* Composition of these groups includes only those classes which are separately classified in the Bureau of Census 1956 reporting schedule.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): January 1956 and 1957 and July-January 1955-56 and 1956-57 a/

Commodity imported	Unit:	January				July-January			
		1956	1957	1956	1957	1955-56	1956-57	1955-56	1956-57
		Quantity	Quantity	Value	Value	Quantity	Quantity	Value	Value
		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars	Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
SUPPLEMENTARY									
Cattle, dutiable	No.	15	22	938	1,176	60	98	5,138	6,981
Cheese	Lb.	3,294	5,038	1,713	2,703	30,752	34,197	16,191	17,979
Hides and skins	Lb.	11,047	9,839	4,943	3,886	70,308	68,599	30,303	28,971
Peef and veal, total b/	Lb.	7,708	11,588	2,240	2,780	74,586	76,000	22,528	19,323
Pork, total b/	Lb.	15,309	13,061	10,594	9,321	94,225	71,381	64,059	49,682
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	19,848	15,238	15,009	13,674	98,710	70,829	83,529	62,567
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale:	13	13	2,284	2,642	102	55	18,712	10,524
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	13	6	2,355	1,394	30	22	5,989	4,782
Olives in brine	Gal.	1,364	1,039	2,251	1,964	7,967	4,618	13,239	8,359
Pineapples, canned, prep. or preserved	Lb.	1,770	11,665	205	1,239	38,649	51,099	4,453	5,963
Pineapple juice	Gal.	216	1,901	80	690	1,553	4,392	583	1,490
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	555	1,346	784	1,971	13,743	17,898	18,192	24,556
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	500	1,326	537	1,149	1,800	6,243	1,950	5,402
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	868	867	1,342	1,469	4,036	3,925	6,291	6,386
Feeds and feeders	c/	c/	c/	655	1,118	c/	c/	5,733	7,141
Nuts and preparations	Lb.	74,029	57,393	5,310	4,718	c/	c/	43,696	36,241
Copra	Lb.	52,433	48,457	4,448	3,643	410,495	393,154	25,966	24,698
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	c/	c/	7,852	8,851	273,286	281,573	40,480	45,217
Seeds, field and garden	Ton	384	396	2,400	1,588	c/	c/	12,848	8,820
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Gal.	22,736	10,409	39,082	44,068	2,194	2,160	229,981	230,675
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Lb.	7,810	7,605	2,304	1,065	169,435	98,392	15,999	9,839
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	1,535	963	5,548	5,474	49,479	51,836	34,139	36,969
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	20,975	33,027	2,019	1,596	8,143	7,871	11,772	11,510
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	c/	c/	1,576	2,155	26,084	50,962	1,855	3,526
Other supplementary				26,010	27,159			165,588	185,861
Total supplementary				142,479	147,493			879,214	853,462
COMPLEMENTARY									
Silk, raw	Lb.	1,262	608	4,995	2,622	5,521	4,573	23,234	19,233
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	24,041	18,805	13,280	11,339	117,343	101,426	69,573	60,998
Bananas	Bunch:	3,374	3,845	5,048	5,602	26,050	25,442	37,763	37,320
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	248,836	266,512	122,152	141,758	1,660,376	1,588,448	823,941	829,859
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	71,580	84,292	21,239	20,189	303,766	290,568	93,333	69,925
Tea	Lb.	9,381	8,197	4,800	4,455	58,425	55,742	29,104	28,247
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	9,553	7,748	3,173	2,172	48,433	53,017	18,639	18,020
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	16	10	2,568	1,499	83	68	13,231	10,331
Rubber, crude	Lb.	133,053	103,821	49,143	29,616	806,228	741,230	279,669	202,383
Other complementary				9,442	9,463			62,650	59,587
Total complementary				235,840	228,715			1,451,137	1,335,903
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES				378,319	376,208			2,330,351	2,189,365
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				1,047,562	1,110,875			6,900,278	7,367,695

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

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Cap. 2

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



Digest

OF THE UNITED STATES

JUN 18 1957

APRIL 1957

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

July-March agricultural exports advance 44 percent in value and 50 percent in quantity over a year earlier. Agricultural exports for July-March are estimated at \$3.6 billion this fiscal year compared with \$2.5 billion last year, a gain of 44 percent. Export quantity increased 50 percent. Cotton, grains, vegetable oils and oilseeds, fruits and vegetables, and livestock products remained ahead of a year earlier; tobacco still lagged. Among the grains, wheat and rice were up; feed grains, down.

This year's exports setting new value and quantity records. The July-March export value this year surpassed the previous high of \$3.2 billion in 1951-52 by 11 percent. In quantity, exports this year were running about one-third ahead of the 1951-52 period.

July-March Agricultural Exports

Commodity	1955-56	1956-57	% chg.
	- \$ million -		
Cotton.....	217	855	+294
Grains and feeds..	809	1,160	+ 43
Tobacco leaf.....	320	270	- 16
Veg. oils, oilseeds	302	360	+ 19
Fruits and vgs. .	226	270	+ 19
Livestock products	407	450	+ 11
Private relief 2/.	117	95	- 19
Other.....	72	100	+ 39
Total.....	2,470	3,560	+ 44
	(1952-54 = 100)		
Quantity index....	113	170	+ 50

1/ Partly estimated. 2/ Mostly CCC donations to U. S. private welfare agencies for overseas needy.

March exports this year well ahead of last. March exports are estimated at \$450 million in 1957 compared with \$330 million in 1956, a gain of 36 percent. March's value estimate is 14 percent ahead of February's total of \$394 million. March quantity was up 49 percent over a year earlier and 14 percent over the prior month. Compared with the previous year, the March export value this year was up 206 percent for soybean oil, 160 percent for cotton, 138 percent for corn, 122 percent for soybeans, 69 percent for rice, and 52 percent for tallow.

Substantial declines were in sorghum grains, flaxseed, and cottonseed oil.

Several factors influential in export gain. Major factors in this year's expansion in agricultural exports are these: (1) Competitive pricing of CCC-owned cotton and several other export products. (2) Strong financial position of most of our best customers. (3) Expanded U. S. Government export programs, including foreign currency sales and barter. (4) Larger foreign import requirements for wheat, oils, and other commodities. (5) Continued progress toward easing of barriers against imports from the United States. (6) Growing desire abroad for some of the high quality products.

Less-developed nations becoming larger markets. Three-fourths of this fiscal year's increase in U. S. agricultural exports is attributed to countries other than our 5 best overseas markets, according to country data for the July-November period, latest for which totals are available. Exports more than doubled to France, Spain, Italy, India, Pakistan, and Korea. Cotton and wheat figured prominently in the gains. Largest increases were to the less-developed nations like India, Pakistan, and Korea.

Five best markets now taking less than half of total agricultural exports. The growth in exports to the lesser markets means that our 5 best markets 1/ are taking a smaller share of our bigger agricultural export total--45 percent this year compared with 51 last year. Other countries are accounting percentagewise for more of our exports--55 percent this year compared with 49 last year. USDA's market development program is a material factor in the market shifts.

Single markets are prominent for some exports. Exports of many agricultural commodities--notably cotton and wheat--are going to a long list of farflung markets. However, for some other commodities--notably dairy, poultry, and meat products and fruits and vegetables--exports to one country, or at most a few countries, are important. In February, latest month for which detailed country data are available, 83 percent of the condensed milk exports went to Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia; 84 percent of the dried whole milk and 74 percent of the shell eggs to Venezuela; 72 percent of the nonfat dry milk solids to Italy and Mexico; 75 percent of the evaporated milk to the Philippines and Greece. Spain took over 90 percent of the exports of frozen beef and hams and shoulders. Practically all of our exports of peanuts this February went to Mexico and Switzerland.

COTTON

Competitive prices keep cotton exports high. March exports of cotton, excluding linters, are estimated by FAS close to 900 thousand bales (480 pounds each) in 1957, about 3 times exports in 1956. The August-March total is 5.7 million bales this year compared with 1.2 million last year. This year's volume to nearly all countries is the heaviest in many years, particularly so to Japan, West Germany, and the United Kingdom. Exports during the 1956-57 season are now expected to exceed 7.3 million bales (480 pounds each). Heavy sales are the result of CCC's competitive pricing program, which recently was extended into the 1957-58 season.

1/ United Kingdom, Japan, West Germany, Canada, and the Netherlands.

TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

April 26, 1957

President Eisenhower this month urged "favorable consideration" by Congress of a bill (HR 6630) to authorize U. S. membership in the Organization for Trade Cooperation (OTC). He said in part:

The foreign trade policies of the United States are based upon our reciprocal trade legislation and the agreements that have been negotiated under it. Until we establish the best possible machinery for administration of these agreements, we are needlessly failing to obtain their maximum possible benefits for American labor, industry, and agriculture. With membership in the proposed OTC we will be in the strongest possible position to achieve the full benefits that these agreements afford.

Background: During the past decade, U. S. foreign trade has followed rules of conduct laid down in a multilateral pact, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). It now has 35 members, accounting for about 85 percent of world trade. Administration of GATT is hampered because there is no permanent administrative body and member countries meet infrequently. Some of the benefits of the tariff and other trade concessions which the United States obtained under GATT are being offset by such restrictive measures as quotas, licenses, and exchange controls. OTC would provide a permanent administrative set-up for dealing currently with these problems and other questions arising from the operation of the trade agreements program.

The proposed legislation assures that safeguards for domestic producers contained in present trade legislation would not be weakened. It would establish a committee of U. S. labor, industry, agriculture, and the public to advise and consult with the U. S. chief representative to OTC. It specifies that participation in OTC would not commit the United States, directly or indirectly, to any further tariff reduction or other trade concession not elsewhere authorized by Congress.

The President referred to proposals for a common market in Europe and observed that "OTC will help to assure that this movement will develop in ways beneficial to our trade and that of other free countries, avoiding the danger that regional trade arrangement will lead to new barriers and discriminations against our exports."

How important is GATT to U. S. agriculture?

U. S. agricultural exports to GATT countries--accounting for nearly three-fourths of all U. S. agricultural exports--totaled \$3 billion in 1956 compared with \$2.3 billion in 1955, nearly one-third greater. The gain to non-GATT nations was 27 percent. On the other hand, nonagricultural shipments to GATT members went up 22 percent; those to other nations, up 14 percent.

For the first time trade groups abroad are assuming major responsibility for promoting U. S. agricultural products: Japanese trade associations are sponsoring 6 displays in USDA's 2nd foreign market promotion exhibit of 1957--at the International Trade Fair in Tokyo, May 5-19. Featured commodities are cotton, wheat, tobacco, soybeans, tallow, dairy products, dried fruits, and popcorn.

USDA is re-showing the livestock feed supply exhibit at the Palermo (Italy) Fair, May 24-June 10. This display received great attention when first shown in Verona, Italy: Thousands of inquiries on how to use feed ingredients were answered. Exhibit shows how more poultry meat and eggs can be produced at less cost through better poultry nutrition using U. S. feed supplies.

Further easing of foreign restrictions that affect U. S. farm exports:

...Surinam: Edible vegetable oils; chicken gizzards, livers, hearts.

...New Zealand: Dried apricots.

...Ireland: Oranges.

Traders' news:

- ...USDA has decided to sell CCC-owned wheat for export through the CCC export credit sales program whenever sales cannot be made for U. S. dollars or through regular financing.
- ...The President, acting on a Section 22 report and recommendation of the Tariff Commission, has set the quota on imports of butter oil and other butter substitutes: 1,800,000 pounds in calendar year 1957; 1,200,000 pounds a year thereafter.
- ...U. S. agriculture's "eyes and ears" now reach farther into North Africa: New attaché post at Rabat, Morocco, will provide reports on the areas of Morocco, Tunisia, and Libya.

* * *

A Greek wheat trade mission has begun a 3-week study of Hard Red Winter wheat in the United States. The study is part of USDA's continuing promotion of a better understanding abroad of the qualities and types of U. S. farm products available for export. Cooperators are the Nebraska Wheat Commission, the Wheat Growers' Association in Kansas, and the Wheat Research Foundation in Oklahoma.

Canada reportedly has agreed to ship Poland 150 thousand tons of wheat in the 1956-57 crop year and an equal amount in 1957-58, 90 percent under a 3-year credit. Canada also has given Poland more time to pay for wheat purchased in 1956. Polish-U. S. negotiations on a surplus agricultural commodity program are continuing.

TOBACCO

Tobacco exports continue slack. About 30 million pounds of tobacco leaf moved into export during March this year compared with 28 million pounds a year earlier and 26 million in February 1957. The July-March total is estimated at 390 million pounds in 1956-57, 18 percent under the 478 million in 1955-56. Britain bought heavily for restocking last year, needs less this year. Other countries like the Philippines, Benelux, and Australia are also taking less this season. Higher U. S. export prices for some grades have discouraged foreign customers from buying.

GRAINS

Eight countries take two-thirds of March wheat grain exports. India, Yugoslavia, Greece, Japan, the United Kingdom, Korea, Turkey, and France accounted for two-thirds of the 39 million bushels of wheat grain inspected by USDA in March for overseas shipment. Combined exports of grain and flour are estimated at 42 million bushels, 6 million less than the February 1957 volume and 2 million over the March 1956 amount. The July-March total is 385 million bushels this marketing year, 82 percent more than the 211 million exported last year. Present indications for the marketing year ending June 30 are that exports will total about 475 million bushels in 1956-57 compared with 344 million in 1955-56. Poor crops in Europe and expanded Public Law 480 programs, primarily in the Far East, are figuring prominently in export increase. Gains have occurred in this season's shipments to Latin American and other countries.

Corn gain eases decline in feed grain exports. Following the pileup of heavy supplies of nonmillable wheat and increased output of feed grains in Europe in the past year, U. S. feed grain exports had been somewhat below the record levels of the 1955-56 season. March feed grain exports, as estimated from USDA inspections, indicate that European supplies are now reduced: they are estimated to have exceeded 650,000 short tons, 10 percent above a year earlier and 37 percent above February 1957. Bulk of the increase was due to corn which has been moving out in larger quantities since November. Major takers of more corn this March compared with last March were the United Kingdom, Belgium, Japan, and West Germany. July-March feed grain exports totaled 5.1 million short tons this marketing year, 15 percent under the 6 million exported last year. The considerable export increase for corn and the sizable one for oats helped to offset heavy reductions in both sorghum grain and barley shipments.

Public Law 480 rice shipments still heavy. Rice exports in March again attained a high level, principally as a result of Public Law 480 transactions. Estimate of 250 million pounds (excluding paddy) is more than double the March 1956 volume of 118 million pounds and 40 percent greater than exports of 177 million pounds in February this year. The heavy movement to India and Pakistan continued in February; these 2 countries took 100 million pounds of that month's exports, reflecting special short-run needs which are being satisfied under Public Law 480. Cuba, a steady customer, took 47 million pounds in February. These 3 countries accounted for over 80 percent of February rice exports. Japan, a good customer a couple of years ago, has had two large rice crops and is importing little

this year. For the August-March period, the export total is estimated at 1,750 million pounds this year, almost 2 1/2 times the 725 million pounds last year.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

Soybean exports at record rate. Soybean exports are estimated from USDA inspections at 4.1 million bushels this March compared with exports of 1.9 million last March. This was the 5th straight month of gain over a year earlier. Principal takers were Japan, the Netherlands, and West Germany. October-March total is 52 million bushels this year--a record rate--compared with 46 million last year. Supplies from other areas are limited while foreign demand continues to rise.

Foreign currency sales aid oil exports. October-March exports of cottonseed and soybean oils are estimated at 800 million pounds this season compared with 570 million last. March shipments estimated at close to 200 million pounds were about 40 percent ahead of a year earlier. Foreign currency sales are a substantial factor in the increase. Chile has taken sizable amounts this year as the result of Public Law 480 transactions: Total through February was 38 million pounds compared with 5 million last year. Chile is currently our largest outlet in Latin America.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Limited lard supplies slow exports. January-March lard exports are estimated at 75 million pounds this year compared with 176 million last year. Exports are running less this year as the result of higher prices and increased domestic use of lard in shortening. Unit export values in February were 16 cents a pound this year and 12 cents last year, up one-third. Lard supplies have not been sufficient to satisfy fully both foreign and domestic needs.

First quarter 1957 tallow exports ahead of a year earlier. Exports of inedible tallow and greases in the January-March quarter are estimated at 400 million pounds this year compared with 371 million last year. Calendar 1956 was a record year. U. S. tallow is of high quality; its price, relatively low. More than half the exports in February--latest period for which official country totals are available--went to 3 countries: Italy, Japan, and the Netherlands. Principal use is in soap making.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Most U. S. fruit and vegetable exports go to Canada. July-March exports of fruits and vegetables are estimated at \$270 million this year, 19 percent ahead of last year. Prominent items in the gain are fresh oranges; dried prunes, peas, and beans; and canned fruits and vegetables. Main foreign outlet for most items is Canada, a fast growing, convenient, and reliable market. For example, Canada took 14 million of the 17 million pounds of white potatoes exported in February. The United Kingdom led in peas, raisins, and prunes. Beans went mostly to Cuba and Mexico.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS: February 1956 and 1957 and July-February 1955-56 and 1956-57 a/

Commodity exported	Unit:	February			July-February		
		1956	1957	Value 1956	1957	1955-56	1956-57
		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars	Thousands	Thousands
Cheese	Lb.	4,083	1,496	1,159	519	25,009	9,863
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	16,816	9,200	2,534	1,313	107,694	116,046
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	4,710	3,071	2,376	1,469	31,254	25,415
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	26,720	7,645	1,984	1,239	152,139	189,160
Eggs, in the shell	Doz.	2,373	2,274	1,249	983	38,112	34,207
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	9,353	11,679	2,649	3,102	33,426	85,086
Pork total b/	Lb.	7,609	8,753	1,668	3,195	46,951	53,251
Lard, incl. shortenings, (animal)	Lb.	48,327	36,465	5,785	5,849	402,976	337,914
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	116,768	98,864	10,061	8,281	816,547	845,608
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale	104	840	17,313	121,534	945	4,919
Apples, fresh	Lb.	9,347	8,916	694	765	71,095	67,755
Oranges and tangerines	Lb.	46,469	50,735	2,584	3,053	361,557	443,098
Prunes, dried	Lb.	5,745	11,022	1,128	1,698	50,001	99,600
Raisins and currants	Lb.	18,195	6,926	1,990	985	120,789	88,589
Fruits, canned *	Lb.	21,719	14,214	3,313	2,223	163,431	207,213
Fruit juices *	Gal.	1,574	1,606	2,397	2,036	8,125	8,977
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	4,050	3,363	4,280	4,286	58,362	40,378
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	7,057	12,448	11,701	19,292	80,819	87,941
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu.	5,803	1,108	6,281	1,418	52,623	25,371
Rice, milled, excludes paddy	Lb.	47,492	176,845	3,131	12,833	742,871	1,655,299
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	21,729	42,207	38,275	73,883	140,913	300,045
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	2,531	2,611	6,170	10,199	13,525	17,823
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Bu.	2,643	4,204	6,542	10,835	56,071	56,227
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	44,647	87,930	6,934	13,527	207,939	603,526
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	55,817	36,290	7,940	5,573	391,418	319,993
Tobacco, flue-cured	Lb.	20,669	20,542	13,429	14,020	394,986	309,295
Tobacco, leaf, other *	Lb.	7,813	5,944	4,433	3,701	54,516	50,562
Beans, dried	Lb.	8,471	2,489	700	234	109,209	152,485
Peas, dried (incl. cowpeas & chickpeas)	Lb.	3,224	7,746	296	541	31,660	89,268
Potatoes, white	Lb.	9,128	16,887	280	383	220,120	191,545
Vegetables, canned *	Lb.	11,408	9,077	1,207	1,205	65,263	78,513
Food exported for relief, etc.				15,634	9,205		
Other agricultural commodities				57,182	54,582		
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL				243,299	393,981		
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				1,347,985	1,591,168		

a/ Preliminary.

b/ Product weight

*Composition of these groups includes only those classes which are separately classified in the Bureau of Census 1956 reporting schedule.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): February 1956 and 1957 and July-February 1955-56 and 1956-57 a/

Commodity imported	Unit:	February			July-February		
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1956	1957	1956	1957	1955-56	1956-57
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
		dollars	dollars	dollars	dollars	dollars	dollars
SUPPLEMENTARY							
Cattle, dutiable	No.	12	21	965	1,300	72	119
Cheese	Lb.	3,488	3,188	1,910	1,676	34,246	37,386
Hides and skins	Lb.	12,698	8,372	5,464	3,378	83,000	76,971
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	7,169	9,939	2,013	2,336	81,754	85,939
Pork, total b/	Lb.	11,594	9,428	7,345	6,832	105,819	80,609
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	18,684	14,231	13,765	13,436	117,395	85,061
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintens (480 lb.)	Bale	18	7	4,211	1,715	120	62
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	18	6	3,431	1,579	48	29
Olives in brine	Gal.	1,225	1,025	2,153	1,908	9,192	5,643
Pineapples, canned, prep. or preserved	Lb.	5,636	5,394	623	582	44,285	56,493
Pineapple juice	Gal.	593	751	221	272	2,146	5,143
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	1,872	553	2,477	754	15,616	18,451
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	474	1,664	544	1,448	2,274	7,907
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	974	696	1,453	1,240	5,010	4,621
Feeds and fodders	c/	c/	c/	790	1,245	c/	c/
Nuts and preparations	c/	c/	c/	3,968	2,937	c/	c/
Copra	Lb.	45,980	51,371	2,866	3,281	456,475	444,525
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	31,636	26,520	5,770	5,072	304,922	308,093
Seeds, field and garden	c/	c/	c/	1,693	1,224	c/	c/
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	401	347	42,789	38,603	2,596	2,507
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	27,237	9,997	2,850	1,486	197,287	109,215
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	7,101	7,947	4,870	5,760	56,580	59,783
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,241	1,140	1,991	1,723	9,384	9,011
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	28,864	25,195	2,056	1,677	54,948	76,157
Other supplementary				23,178	22,943		
Total supplementary				139,396	124,407		
COMPLEMENTARY							
Silk, raw	Lb.	136	473	560	2,044	5,657	5,047
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	24,371	15,896	13,398	10,038	141,715	117,322
Bananas	Bunch	3,784	3,828	5,470	5,707	29,834	29,271
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	288,499	317,364	141,968	163,351	1,948,875	1,905,841
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	58,658	35,126	17,013	9,405	362,424	325,770
Tea	Lb.	8,304	7,394	4,217	4,277	66,729	63,136
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	8,024	6,140	2,711	2,304	56,457	59,156
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	14	10	2,323	1,461	97	78
Rubber, crude	Lb.	120,610	83,971	44,193	25,095	926,838	825,220
Other complementary				8,116	6,442		
Total complementary				239,969	230,124		
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES				379,365	354,531		
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				1,035,835	1,002,135		

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.

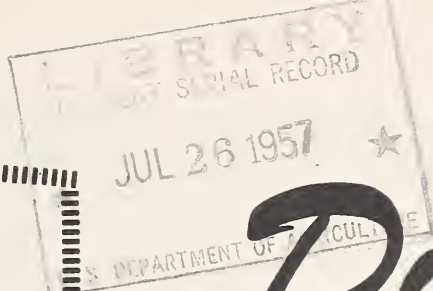
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FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES



Digest

MAY 1957

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Agricultural export expansion continues. Total value for July-April is estimated at \$4 billion this fiscal year, 44 percent ahead of \$2.8 billion in 1955-56. Export quantity was ahead by nearly 50 percent. Cotton, grains, vegetable oils and oilseeds, fruits and vegetables, and livestock products remained in front; tobacco still lagged. Among the grains, wheat and rice were up; feed grains, down.

This year's exports are highest on record. This is true for both value and quantity. July-April estimated value is about 15 percent greater this year than in the previous record year 1951-52 when the 10-month total was \$3.5 billion. Quantitywise, exports this year were about 40 percent ahead of the 1951-52 period.

July-April Agricultural Exports

Commodity	1955-56	1956-57 ^{1/}	% chg.
- \$ million -			
Cotton.....	276	960	+248
Grains and feeds...	918	1,325	+ 44
Tobacco leaf.....	339	290	- 14
Veg. oils, oilseeds	333	400	+ 20
Fruits and vogs. ..	254	295	+ 16
Livestock products.	453	500	+ 10
Private relief ^{2/} ..	130	130	0
Other.....	79	115	+ 46
Total.....	2,782	4,015	+ 44
(1952-54 = 100)			
Quantity index.....	115	171	+ 49

^{1/} Partly estimated. ^{2/} Mostly CCC donations to U. S. private welfare agencies for overseas needy.

Exports in April 1957 maintain strong lead over a year earlier. April exports are estimated at \$430 million in 1957 compared with \$312 million in 1956, a gain of 38 percent. April's value was 8 percent under March's \$466 million. Quantitatively, this April's trade was 40 percent ahead of a year earlier and 3 percent ahead of March 1956. Notable April gains over a year earlier were in cotton, wheat, rice, and soybean oil.

Several factors influence export gain. Major factors in this year's expansion in agricultural exports are: (1) Competitive

pricing of CCC-owned cotton and several other export products. (2) Strong financial position of most of our best customers. (See table below.) (3) Expanded U. S. Government export programs, including foreign currency sales and barter. (4) Larger foreign import requirements for wheat, oils, and other commodities. (5) Continued progress toward easing of barriers against imports from the United States. (6) Growing desire abroad for some of the high quality products.

COTTON

Cotton exports total 6.4 million bales through April this season. April cotton exports, excluding linters, are estimated from trade sources close to 800 thousand bales (480 pounds each) in 1957, more than twice the amount exported a year earlier and about the same as the 822 thousand bales moved this March. August-April total is 6.4 million bales this year, 1.6 million last year. Heavy shipments this year are the result of CCC's special sales for export at competitive prices. Japan has already taken over a million bales.

TOBACCO

Tobacco exports still lagging. April tobacco leaf exports are estimated from trade sources at 30 million pounds this year, close to the quantity shipped in April 1956 and March 1957. July-April total of 420 million

pounds was 17 percent under a year earlier. Larger stocks abroad and higher prices here have been the main factors hindering this season's exports.

GRAINS

Wheat inspections point to high April exports. April wheat and wheat flour exports are estimated, partly from USDA inspections, at 55 million bushels this year compared with 34 million a year earlier and 49 million in March 1957. Over half of the March exports went to 7 countries: India, Yugoslavia, Greece, Turkey, Japan, Korea, and Pakistan. July-April total is 445 million bushels, 82 percent ahead of last year. Poor crops in Europe have resulted in increased sales to that area, mainly for dollars but including some barter.

Estimated Gold and Dollar Holdings of Foreign Countries

Country	: <u>December 31</u> :		Change
	: 1955 :	: 1956 :	
	- \$ Million -		Percent
Canada.....	2,610	2,996	+ 15
Sterling area:			
United Kingdom..	2,882	3,010	+ 4
Other.....	1,115	1,135	+ 2
Western Europe:			
The Netherlands.	1,144	1,080	- 6
West Germany....	2,382	3,341	+ 40
Other.....	10,057	10,025	<u>1</u> /
Latin America:			
Venezuela.....	671	1,061	+ 58
Other.....	3,313	3,248	- 2
Asia:			
Japan.....	1,033	1,171	+ 13
Other.....	1,621	1,651	+ 2
All others.....	<u>641</u>	<u>615</u>	- 4
Total.....	27,469	29,333	+ 7
<u>1</u> / Less than 0.5 percent.			

Title I sales have been important primarily for areas other than Europe.

TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

May 24, 1957

Visitors in Washington this month are seeing an exhibit on "Moving Surpluses and Expanding Foreign Markets" in USDA's Administration Building.

President Eisenhower, in proclaiming the week of May 19 as WORLD TRADE WEEK, called for "gatherings, discussions, exhibits, ceremonies and other activities designed to promote a greater awareness of the importance of world trade to our domestic economy and to the strength of the free world."

Some of Secretary Benson's observations about exports and CCC stocks:

- ...Nearly \$9 billion of farm surpluses have been moved out of stocks and into use in the past 4 years.
- ...The "sold out" sign has been hung up for a sizable list of commodities, including cottonseed oil, linseed oil, and soybeans.
- ...Stocks of grain sorghums, rice, barley, butter, dried milk, and wool have been reduced.
- ...U. S. farm exports this fiscal year are rising to a record level \$4-1/2 billion--\$1 billion above 1955-56. This is the 4th successive year of increase.
- ...Exports for dollars are being emphasized more and more. Dollar sales now account for approximately two-thirds of CCC disposals. The Corporation is recovering 71 cents on the dollar from its dollar sales.
- ...A billion dollars of farm surpluses have been bartered for strategic foreign materials and other defense needs.

Export accomplishments of U. S. agriculture

TOKYO. The Japan Times, May 9 edition, headlines U. S. agricultural participation in the International Trade Fair, May 4-19:

"U. S. EXHIBITS MAKE HUGE HIT AT TOKYO FAIR--Include Big Display of Farm Products." Unique aspect of agricultural exhibit is joint Japanese-U. S. trade cooperation.

TOKYO. The U. S. tallow industry in 4 years has achieved a fourfold increase in shipments to Japan, from 50 million to 200 million

pounds. One-sixth of U. S. exports now goes to this market, where in the past 7-1/2 years housewives have put into use over a million washing machines.

HONG KONG. U. S. frozen poultry and pork byproducts are displacing like items from mainland China among this market's 2-1/2 million consumers. Better U. S. quality and lower prices have built up U. S. poultry exports from 28,000 pounds in 1953 to 800,000 in 1956.

- ...Agricultural exports have been sold for foreign currencies to 31 friendly nations--because they were short of dollars. New markets have been opened; many should develop into dollar sales outlets because we have created a desire for our products abroad.
- ...There are much better tools available to promote American agricultural exports today than ever before: Agricultural attaches, marketing specialists, special export programs, and trade fairs and other promotions.
- ...The CCC inventory is being moved in an orderly manner and without adverse effect on domestic or world market prices.

The exhibit tells this story--and more. It includes a 17-minute color film entitled "Marketing Farm Products Abroad." The film points out that increasing our agricultural exports "didn't just happen" but took a lot of doing jointly by American agriculture, industry, and Government. (For information concerning loan of this film, write to Motion Picture Service, Office of Information, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.)

* * *

Japan has announced estimates of expenditures for principal agricultural commodities expected to be imported April 1-September 30 and April 1-March 31: Rice, 74 thousand metric tons for the half year, 500 thousand for the full year; wheat, 1,005 thousand tons and 2,200 thousand; barley, 407 thousand tons and 880 thousand; raw cotton, 1,347 thousand bales and 2,897 thousand. Most purchases are to be made on a global basis, with no designated currency of settlement indicated and freedom to purchase from the cheapest source.

Further easing of foreign restrictions that affect U. S. farm exports:

- ...Canada: Removes 10-percent sales and excise taxes on numerous items.
- ...Ireland: Frees gums, resins, fur skins, and essential oils and concentrates from special import levies.
- ...Switzerland: Reduces amount of domestic dry milk that importers must buy in order to be able to import dry milk.
- ...Peru: Suspends duties on refined cottonseed oil for 6 months.
- ...Nicaragua: Lowers duties on meal, semolina, and other coarse wheat flour and flour of spelt and meslin.
- ...Saudi Arabia: Abolishes duties on specified grains, feeds, fruits, vegetables, and dairy products. Does not require traders to obtain prior permission from the Ministry of Finance for agricultural imports.
- ...Malaya: Lowers duties on tobaccos.

Feed grain exports still off despite improvement in corn. Over 450 thousand short tons were shipped this April according to USDA inspections, about one-fourth under a year earlier. July-April total is 5.5 million tons this season, 18 percent less than last. Smaller exports are due to last year's heavy production of nonmillable wheat and feed grains in Europe. Corn and oats are doing better this year, but sorghum grains and barley are off.

Rice exports heavy, aided by Public Law 480. April rice exports are estimated at 275 million pounds this year compared with 61 million last year. August-April volume is 2.1 billion pounds this season, 165 percent greater than in 1955-56. Over half of the March shipments of 327 million pounds went to India; over one-fourth, to Korea. Large April tonnages are indicated for Korea, Pakistan, and India. Public Law 480 has been especially important in enabling dollar-short, food-short Asian nations to obtain additional rice supplies this year.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

Soybean exports still rising. April soybean inspections for export were over 6 million bushels this year compared with actual exports of 5 million last year and 5.5 million in March 1957. Exports in the October-April period this season totaled 60 million bushels--9 million ahead of the like period last season. This season's record rate reflects, in addition to other factors, smaller supplies of soybeans from China.

Edible vegetable oil exports reach 900-million pound mark. April shipments of cottonseed and soybean oils are estimated at 100 million pounds this year, nearly 50 percent below March 1957 but more than one-third larger than shipments in April 1956. For the October-April period of the marketing season, this year's volume of about 900 million pounds is considerably above last year's 645 million. Foreign currency sales have been a substantial factor in facilitating shipments to oil-short countries. In March this year, one-third of the exports went to Spain; over one-fifth, to Italy.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Less lard is available for export this year. With April lard exports estimated about one-fourth under the March level, the January-April total is 180 million pounds this year, 23 percent under last year. Limited supplies at home have advanced prices; hog slaughter is down, and more lard is being used in domestic shortening. Other factors in the export drop: Termination of ICA shipments, reduction in Public Law 480 shipments.

Tallow exports fall in April; January-April total same as last year. Exports of inedible tallow and greases in April 1957 are estimated at 135 million pounds, about one-fourth under April 1956. Only in March did exports run ahead of a year earlier. For January-April, the estimated total is 545 million pounds this year, the same as actual exports a year earlier. Both price and quality make U. S. tallow well accepted the world over. Domestic industries are using larger quantities; use in animal feed has gone up recently.

FRUITS

U. S. exports of fresh oranges slow in March. March fresh orange exports this year of 78 million pounds were 21 million under last year. Canada, the largest customer, held up fairly well; but Europe took appreciably less, especially the Netherlands and Belgium. However, November-March total of 327 million pounds was 27 percent ahead of a year earlier, reflecting freeze damage to the Spanish crop. March lull in U. S. shipments reflects South African fruit usually marketed in Europe in the spring.

IMPORT HIGHLIGHTS

February imports this year lag behind last year. Agricultural imports in February 1957--latest month for which official figures are available as this report goes to press--totaled \$355 million, 6 percent less than in the like month a year earlier and 6 percent less than in January 1957. Compared with a year earlier, this February's imports of supplementary (competitive) products declined more than complementary (noncompetitive) items. Notable value declines in the supplementary class were in hides and skins, cotton, jute, barley, nuts, cane sugar, and molasses. For the complementary group, principal reductions were in crude rubber, cacao beans, and carpet wool, and they more than offset the large increase in coffee imports.

July-February imports also behind. For the July-February period also, agricultural imports this year were 6 percent below a year earlier. Total of \$2,544 million compared with \$2,710 million. More of the drop in the 8-month period was in complementary items, principally rubber and cacao beans. In the supplementary group, major declines were in imports of pork, apparel wool, and cotton--items in plentiful supply in this country.

Agricultural share of total imports still falling. July-February agricultural imports comprised 30 percent of the value of all U. S. imports for consumption this fiscal year compared with 34 percent in 1955-56 (July-February and July-June). This year's share is the smallest in the past 40 years of record. Plentiful domestic supplies of competitive products have tended to weaken demand for additional imports. In the case of non-competitive items, stocks built up from earlier imports are adequate for foreseeable needs.

Large U. S. stocks weaken coffee imports. Coffee imports for the July-April period are estimated at 2,320 million pounds this year compared with 2,447 million last year. Imports had mostly caught up with the year-ago level by February, but since then and especially in April, there have been sizable declines in arrivals. The decrease is attributable to the large U. S. stocks on hand--roughly a 10-week inventory of green coffee.

Cacao bean imports also sag under weight of large U. S. stocks. Cacao bean imports for the July-April period are estimated at 415 million pounds this year compared with 470 million last year. Through February imports were off 36 million pounds, and there was a further drop of about 20 million in March and April. Although consumption has continued to expand, large domestic stocks have been available to fill orders.

Tea imports are well maintained. Tea entries examined and passed by the Food and Drug Administration in March and April totaled over 19 million pounds, about 1 million under actual imports a year earlier. July-April total is estimated at 82 million pounds this year compared with 85 million last year. Imports have totaled around 100 million pounds a year since 1953-54 when imports rose to 125 million pounds following the rise in coffee prices.

Reduced tire consumption slows imports of rubber. July-February imports of crude (natural) rubber were 825 million pounds this year, 11 percent less than last year. Domestic stocks of both natural and synthetic rubber are large; consumption is down, particularly of tires and tire products. Calendar 1956 consumption of dry natural rubber totaled 11 percent under 1955; synthetic, 2 percent less. Natural imports have also been hit by continuing gradual downward trend in percentage use of natural to total.

Table on U. S. agricultural imports for March 1957 is not available as this report goes to press. February statistics appeared in the April Digest.

TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP (continued)

Farm and trade organization representatives are meeting with U. S. agricultural attaches at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, May 20-25; purpose is to further efforts to increase exports.

* * *

Traders' news:

- ...USDA has issued a report on changing over from bushels to hundred-weight in measuring grains. Advantages and disadvantages are discussed. Write to USDA Office of Information for Marketing Research Report 168.
- ...The U. S. Tariff Commission has found that the tariff quota on imports of alsike clover seed will remain necessary after June 30, 1957, in order to prevent serious injury to the domestic industry concerned.
- ...Tariff Commission has scheduled Section 22 public hearing June 3 on imports of rye, rye flour, and rye meal.
- ...CCC has signed a \$4 million barter contract involving exchange of CCC-owned wool and other farm commodities for strategic materials. The wool--valued at about \$2 million--will be exported to Turkey.
- ...USDA suspended barter negotiations on May 15. Purpose is to review safeguards against substitution of barter for dollar sales. Objective is to assure that future barter contracts will result in net increases in agricultural exports without substitution of barter for dollar sales.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS: March 1956 and 1957 and July-March 1955-56 and 1956-57 a/

Commodity exported	Unit:	March		July-March	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1956	1957	1955-56	1956-57
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
			dollars		dollars
Cheese	Lb.	2,215	576	27,224	36,540
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	11,183	1,703	118,877	131,110
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	4,340	2,060	35,594	29,023
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	17,236	2,193	169,374	201,711
Eggs, in the shell	Doz.	3,062	1,694	41,174	37,614
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	7,262	1,897	40,688	94,607
Pork, total b/	Lb.	6,197	1,392	53,148	59,842
Lard, incl. shortenings, (animal)	Lb.	62,228	7,697	465,203	399,923
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	112,916	9,394	929,463	1,016,711
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale	310	49,849	1,254	5,742
Apples, fresh	Lb.	9,177	610	80,272	73,014
Oranges and tangerines	Lb.	98,648	5,948	460,205	520,689
Prunes, dried	Lb.	7,157	1,215	57,158	105,382
Raisins and currants	Lb.	8,150	933	128,939	91,689
Fruits, canned *	Lb.	15,443	2,386	178,874	218,861
Fruit juices *	Gal.	1,533	2,275	9,659	10,814
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	7,949	7,974	66,311	45,495
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	7,752	11,963	88,572	103,863
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu.	6,467	7,335	59,090	25,922
Rice, milled, excludes paddy	Lb.	117,737	10,703	860,608	1,982,426
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	35,834	64,140	176,747	342,644
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	1,942	8,337	15,467	20,769
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Bu.	1,886	4,824	57,957	61,693
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	42,532	6,545	250,471	732,503
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	97,220	14,394	488,638	380,940
Tobacco, flue-cured	Lb.	20,463	12,990	415,449	334,830
Tobacco, leaf, other *	Lb.	6,688	4,100	61,204	56,638
Beans, dried	Lb.	12,541	923	121,750	158,722
Peas, dried (incl. cowpeas & chickpeas)	Lb.	5,622	524	37,282	108,167
Potatoes, white	Lb.	14,253	519	234,372	216,994
Vegetables, canned *	Lb.	8,891	1,097	74,153	91,015
Food exported for relief, etc.			22,004		
Other agricultural commodities			59,683		
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL			329,877		
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES			1,570,122		

a/ Preliminary.

b/ Product weight

*Composition of these groups includes only those classes which are separately classified in the Bureau of Census 1956 reporting schedule G.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

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FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES

JUL 26 1957
Digest

JUNE 1957

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

July-May agricultural export gain 38 percent in value, over 40 percent in quantity. Eleven-month estimate of \$4,350 million for 1956-57 compares with exports of \$3,142 million in the previous year. Cotton, grains, vegetable oils and oilseeds, fruits and vegetables, and livestock products stayed ahead; tobacco continued to run behind. Among the grains, wheat, corn, and rice were up; other feed grains, down.

July-May 1956-57 value exceeds record July-June 1951-52 figure. 1956-57's 11-month estimate is 7 percent ahead of 1951-52's 12-month total. Highest value attained by agricultural exports was \$4,053 million in 1951-52. Total of \$4.6-\$4.7 billion is expected for all of 1956-57.

July-May Agricultural Exports

Commodity	1955-56	1956-57 ^{1/}	% chg.
- \$ Million -			
Cotton.....	333	1,020	+206
Grains and feeds..	1,045	1,435	+ 37
Tobacco leaf.....	361	310	- 14
Veg. oils,oilseeds	367	420	+ 14
Fruits and vogs...	290	325	+ 12
Livestock products	501	560	+ 12
Private relief ^{2/} .	154	170	+ 10
Other.....	91	100	+ 10
Total.....	3,142	4,350	+ 38
(1952-54 = 100)			
Quantity index....	119	170	+ 43

^{1/} Partly estimated. ^{2/} Mostly CCC donations to U. S. private welfare agencies for overseas needy.

May exports this year were about the same as last in value; slightly ahead in quantity. This May's export value is estimated at close to April's \$386 million and about 5 percent above May 1956's \$359 million. May's quantity was a little under April's and about 7 percent over a year earlier. Generally, May exports held their own compared with April. The increase over May a year ago was mainly the result of larger cotton sales this year.

Thirteen countries accounted for four-fifths of July-March export value gain. (July-March is the

the latest period for which country totals are available.) Of the \$1,114-million gain this July-March over last, \$910 million is attributed to these 13 outlets, some of them quite minor in past years. The "top 5" of the group (see table below) accounted for 37 percent of the overall gain. Largest percentage increases were for India, Korea, and Pakistan.

Cotton and wheat shipments were heavy to major gainers. Larger cotton and wheat shipments this July-March compared with last made heavy contributions to overall gains for the United Kingdom, Japan, West Germany, Canada, the Netherlands, India, Belgium, Italy, France, and Korea. Corn followed cotton in importance for Canada. Barley made a sizable contribution to the gain for Korea.

Government-program share continues at 41 percent of total exports. Agricultural exports under the major Government export programs (see table, page 5) were close to \$1,475 million this July-March, 41 percent of the \$3,584 million export total. This share is the same as 1955-56's, indicating that exports outside programs are holding their own in relation to the total and are increasing substantially in absolute terms. These programs accounted for 62 percent of the grain export value, followed by cotton, 47 percent; livestock products, 34 percent; vegetable oils and oil-seeds, 28 percent; tobacco, 9 percent; and fruits and vegetables, 8 percent.

Cotton exports headed for best season since 1933-34 period. With May shipments estimated from trade sources at close to those of April, August-May total is 6.8 million bales (480 lbs.) in 1956-57 compared with 1.9 million in 1955-56. Season's total will run about 7 1/2 million bales. Heavy exports are resulting from the CCC export program and, in the foreign free world, replenishment of small beginning stocks, a decline in production, and an increase in consumption.

U. S. Agricultural Exports by Country of Destination July-March 1955-56 and 1956-57			
Country	: July-March : :1955-56:1956-57:	% chg.	
- \$ Million -			
United Kingdom..	318 397	+ 25	
West Germany....	190 350	+ 84	
Japan.....	266 344	+ 29	
Canada.....	205 272	+ 33	
Netherlands.....	180 210	+ 17	
Italy.....	79 170	+115	
Belgium.....	92 141	+ 53	
India.....	23 135	+487	
Spain.....	74 126	+ 70	
France.....	47 116	+147	
Cuba.....	88 106	+ 20	
Korea.....	23 81	+252	
Pakistan.....	31 78	+152	
Other.....	854 1,058	+ 25	
Total.....	2,470 3,584	+ 45	

Tobacco exports lagging less now than earlier. May exports are estimated at about the same as a year earlier. July-May volume came close to 450 million pounds in 1956-57, 17 percent under 1955-56. January-May exports were behind by only 12 percent compared with 19 percent for July-December.

Wheat exports in 1956-57 promise to be a record. Shipments of both grain and flour in May are estimated at 52 million bushels in 1957, according to USDA inspections, 6 million more than in 1956. May's gain was the smallest so far this

TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

June 25, 1957

Export Accomplishments of U. S. Agriculture

(Trade News Roundup will be pleased to publish interesting stories on success in opening new markets for U. S. agricultural products.)

SINGAPORE. A U. S. firm has made a sizable sale of rice here as a direct result of a special exhibit developed by the U. S. agricultural officer. This is the first U. S. commercial sale of rice in the Singapore area in a decade.

CARACAS. Air flights to Venezuela recently carried strange cargoes: 500 head of Brangus cattle from the United States. Arrangements for the sale were made through the cooperation of the local U. S. agricultural attache and the American Brangus Producers Association of Vinita, Oklahoma. Prices ranged from \$275 for yearling heifers to \$400 for 2-year-old bulls.

LIMA. Peru bought 60 U. S. Corriedale sheep for about \$21 thousand. The sheep, including 20 rams and 40 ewes, were accompanied by an official of the American Corriedale Sheep Association.

WASHINGTON. U. S. raisins are es-

pecially preferred by bakers abroad because of quality and adaptability to bakery machinery. Some countries that normally restrict imports of U. S. agricultural commodities allow imports of U. S. raisins solely for this quality factor.

LIMA. Trial shipments of U. S. poultry products by U. S. producers late in 1956 have blossomed into an impressive business here. U. S. shipments of frozen chickens and capons rose from 7.2 thousand pounds in the first 4 months of 1956 to 135.8 thousand in the same period this year.

LIMA. Peruvian supermarkets are going to try a new way of selling beans. They've ordered 80,000 pounds from Western Bean Dealers, Inc., a U. S. trade association, for packaging and sale in cellophane bags. According to U. S. trade data, this is the first sale of beans to Peru.

USDA's revised barter program was announced on May 28. Revamped program, under which CCC continues to exchange surplus farm products for strategic and other materials from foreign countries, is intended to insure that barter will not simply replace dollar sales with no net gain in exports.

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Negotiations between the United States and Poland for sale of agricultural commodities were completed June 7. Arrangements involve Export-Import Bank loans and Title I sales. A supplemental agreement would provide for additional Title I items.

Title I sales would amount to \$18.9 million. On the same day the agree-

ment was announced, USDA issued a purchase authorization for 91,000 bales of American Upland cotton valued at \$14.9 million. On June 19, purchase was authorized of \$3.9 million of tallow and edible vegetable oils.

Export-Import Bank credits totaling \$30 million are to finance purchases of 100,000 metric tons of wheat, 60,000 tons of soybeans, 3,000 tons of cotton, and some machinery.

CCC announced on June 7 that it will consider applications for export or transshipment to Poland under either a cash or CCC deferred payment arrangement.

* * *

Historical note: In 1803, President Jefferson urged that efforts be made to establish trade with the Indians along the Missouri River. Congress appropriated \$2,500 "for the purposes of extending the external commerce of the United States." This was perhaps the first case of foreign trade promotion by the Government. (Source: Samuel C. Waugh, President, Export-Import Bank.)

* * *

The U. S. Tariff Commission has recommended to the President that he proclaim an import fee on tung oil under authority of Section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, as amended. Fee of 3 cents per pound, but not more than 50 percent ad valorem, would be for an indefinite period. Purpose is to prevent interference with the domestic price support program for tung nuts and tung oil. Tung oil is presently free of import duty.

The Commission has also recommended an annual Section 22 quota of 95.2 million pounds for imports of rye, rye flour, and rye meal. This action was taken to prevent interference of imports with the USDA price support program for rye. Since the present quota of 186 million pounds expires June 30, Presidential action on the Commission's recommendation is anticipated before July 1.

* * *

FAS is meeting with private trade groups this week to discuss the market development program under Section 104-a of Public Law 480. Meetings are scheduled for June 27 and 28 in Washington. Plans will be discussed for undertaking future market development activities and improving promotional methods.

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The Mexicans have concluded their cattle-buying program in the United States. Purchases made in 16 states totaled 16,400 beef cattle and 3,600 dairy cattle. Cattle will be used to improve breeding stock and herd quality in Mexico.

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year. July-May total is 490 million bushels in 1956-57, 69 percent ahead of 1955-56. Season's total is now expected to be 535 million bushels, 189 million above 1955-56 and 31 million above the 1948-49 record.

Rice was shipped to Asia at opportune time. The 120-million pound estimate for May exports is double the year-earlier quantity but half the month-before figure. August-May total of 2,180 million pounds in 1956-57 compares with 847 million in 1955-56. Main increases were for Indonesia, India, and Pakistan; largest decline, for Japan. Public Law 480 helped greatly in the increase; the need in Asia was especially great in view of exhaustion of accumulated surpluses there. However, program shipments are now tapering off.

Feed grain exports still down despite corn gain. About 500 thousand short tons moved this May, according to USDA inspections, compared with 735 thousand last May. July-May total is 6 million tons in 1956-57, 7 1/2 million in 1955-56. Sharp declines for barley and sorghum grain reflected large supplies of nonmillable wheat in Europe. The gain in corn softened the overall drop.

Soybean export record in prospect. Again, in May, exports were above those of a year earlier. October-May total of 65 million bushels was 10 million above a year earlier. Season total of about 80 million bushels is expected, a new record. Exports have been following a rising trend for several years because foreign demand for oilseeds and products has been strong and foreign supplies have not greatly increased. The record domestic crops of recent years have made large quantities available.

Edible vegetable oil exports aided by greater consumption abroad. May's estimate of cottonseed and soybean oil exports is 60 million pounds, well under April's and last May's. October-May volume of 970 million pounds in 1956-57 contrasts with 743 million in 1955-56. Exceptionally good foreign demand has reflected increased consumption levels, particularly in Spain, and 2 successive years of poor olive crops in Italy.

Livestock product exports gain despite drop in tallow and lard. Increases were in cheese, milk, and meats; beef and veal exports more than doubled.

U. S. Agricultural Exports under Specified Government Programs July-March 1956-57							
Commodity	: USDA : for. : curr. : sales	: ICA : for. : relief: : grants:	: USDA : dona- : tions	: USDA : barter: : sales	: ICA : for. : curr. : sales	: Ex-Im : Bank : credit: : sales	Total
- - - - - Million dollars - - - - -							
Cotton.....	178.0	0	0	83.6	81.2	51.0	393.8
Grains.....	325.4	41.8	33.1	231.5	108.0	0	739.8
Tobacco.....	23.9	0	0	0	0.6	0	24.5
Veg. oils, oilseeds	79.5	0	0.4	0	24.6	0	104.5
Fruits and vgs. ..	2.3	0.6	1.5	0	17.4	0	21.8
Livestock prods. ..	36.2	31.6	75.2	0.1	35.3	4.8	183.2
Other.....	0.2	0	0	0	6.4	0	6.6
Total.....	645.5	74.0	110.2	315.2	273.5	55.8	1,474.2

IMPORT HIGHLIGHTS

April import gain from year-ago level reflected mainly larger purchases of coffee. April imports totaled \$329 million in 1957, \$317 million in 1956. Increase of \$10 million in complementary (noncompetitive) items (mostly coffee) was accompanied by increase of \$1 million in supplementary (competitive) items.

July-April imports were \$200 million behind a year ago, mostly in noncompetitive category. Ten-month total was \$3,229 million in 1956-57 compared with \$3,429 million in 1955-56. Complementary reduction of \$171 million was accompanied by supplementary decline of \$29 million. Bulk of complementary drop was in rubber; notable amount in cocoa beans; none in coffee. Chief supplementary decline was in apparel wool, with lesser ones in pork, cotton, and nuts.

Home demand stays weak for imported agricultural items, strong for other items. While the July-April agricultural import value is less this year than last, the nonagricultural value is larger by almost \$800 million. Stocks of a number of imported agricultural products have been adequate and there have been no compelling reasons to expand inventories. But domestic demand for industrial raw materials and other items of foreign origin continues to grow as people seek more manufactured goods. As non-agricultural imports have increased over the years, the agricultural share of total imports has fallen. In recent years this share has gone below 40 percent. For 1956-57, it promises to be down to 30 percent.

CCC wool sales have weakened this year's demand for imports. Apparel wool imports have been running behind a year earlier since June 1956, reflecting in part the sale and use of a substantial quantity of CCC wool and in part the reduced level of mill use. July-April imports were 110 million pounds this year (actual weight), 29 percent less than last year.

Strengthened domestic prices have encouraged cattle imports. Dutiable cattle imports (as distinguished from breeding stock which is free of duty) began to increase over a year earlier in August 1956. The gains have continued, and the July-April total of 189 thousand head this fiscal year was more than twice last year's figure. This volume, however, is still 30 percent under imports in the comparable period of 1954-55. Feeder prices have strengthened, especially since the start of 1957.

Better crops in Mexico resulted in larger U. S. tomato imports. July-April imports totaled 120 million pounds this fiscal year compared with 79 million last year. Heavier imports reflected much better crops in Mexico and a higher proportion of vine-ripened tomatoes in Cuba.

Oat grain imports larger this year, barley grain to approximate last year's level. Oats continued ahead of a year earlier in April, but barley was sharply down. Canada reports barley shipments to the United States in May considerably less than last year's, and the 1956-57 total is expected to approximate last year's 26 million bushels. For oats, higher domestic prices arising chiefly out of the smaller 1956 U.S. crop have encouraged imports from Canada, but the year's total will be well under the high levels of 1951-52 through 1953-54.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS: April 1956 and 1957 and July-April 1955-56 and 1956-57 a/

Commodity exported	Unit	April		July-April	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1956	1957	1955-56	1956-57
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
			dollars		dollars
			1,000		1,000
Cheese	Lb.	1,818	3,302	29,042	39,842
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	12,346	7,861	131,223	138,971
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	3,661	4,858	39,256	33,881
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	11,929	24,418	181,303	226,130
Eggs, in the shell	Doz.	2,854	3,119	44,028	40,733
Peef and veal, total b/	Lb.	3,744	4,623	44,432	99,230
Pork, total b/	Lb.	5,804	4,940	1,225	1,538
Lard, incl. shortenings, (animal)	Lb.	59,328	43,857	7,476	6,798
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	165,738	125,822	13,394	10,719
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.)	Pale:	379	629	58,464	91,081
Apples, fresh	Lb.	11,944	5,603	839	453
Oranges and tangerines	Lb.	133,434	80,569	8,460	5,196
Prunes, dried	Lb.	6,129	5,204	1,036	854
Raisins and currants	Lb.	4,333	4,252	560	632
Fruits, canned *	Lb.	8,072	24,613	1,256	3,686
Fruit juices *	Gal.	1,173	1,710	1,535	2,355
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	11,600	3,258	11,739	3,513
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	10,247	12,202	16,227	17,510
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu.	4,381	335	4,962	418
Rice, milled, excludes paddy	Lb.	60,992	245,306	5,634	18,217
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	29,101	46,050	50,472	80,510
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	2,070	1,985	8,464	8,703
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Bu.	5,106	5,726	13,848	14,422
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	31,629	73,050	4,965	12,014
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc. ..	Lb.	42,716	29,100	7,080	4,418
Tobacco, flue-cured	Lb.	24,169	20,661	15,574	14,693
Tobacco, leaf, other *	Lb.	5,313	7,825	3,191	4,849
Beans, dried	Lb.	16,515	25,709	1,074	1,472
Peas, dried (incl. cowpeas & chickpeas)	Lb.	1,452	7,648	137	600
Potatoes, white	Lb.	67,204	16,822	2,014	404
Vegetables, canned *	Lb.	3,490	13,350	482	1,283
Food exported for relief, etc.				12,669	13,540
Other agricultural commodities				51,164	55,535
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL				312,297	385,548
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				1,499,184	1,845,774

a/ Preliminary.

b/ Product weight.

*Composition of these groups include only those classes which were separately classified in the Bureau of Census 1956 reporting schedule G.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): April 1956 and 1957 and July-April 1955-56 and 1956-57 a/

Commodity imported	Unit	April		July-April	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1956	1957	1955-56	1956-57
SUPPLEMENTARY					
Cattle, dutiable	No.	5	37	Thousands	Thousands
Cheese	Lb.	4,603	4,325	93	189
Hides and skins	Lb.	14,776	11,078	43,962	46,699
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	8,998	16,718	112,280	102,920
Pork, total b/	Lb.	14,029	13,297	99,280	113,659
Wool, unmfd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	16,287	11,838	131,124	107,651
Cotton, unmfd., excl. lintors (480 lb.)	Fale	6	3	155,001	109,908
Jute and jute butts, unmfd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	9	6	1,135	75
Olives in brine	Gal.	1,357	1,003	573	45
Pineapples, canned, prep. or preserved	Lb.	7,196	7,752	1,553	12,655
Pineapple juice	Gal.	1,061	979	11,745	8,095
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Pu.	3,802	439	60,834	73,534
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Pu.	143	969	4,731	7,953
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Pu.	1,703	548	19,951	20,705
Feeds and fodders	c/	c/	c/	2,663	10,881
Nuts and preparations	c/	c/	c/	914	5,906
Copra	Lb.	37,258	46,462	1,030	8,520
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	32,795	40,784	3,282	58,223
Seeds, field and garden	c/	c/	c/	2,794	35,262
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	373	381	557,617	553,731
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	39,443	20,239	384,901	400,463
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	7,587	7,119	865	16,469
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,039	1,121	3,385	356,314
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	5,815	14,695	293,348	155,007
Other supplementary	Lb.			70,736	73,876
Total supplementary				11,842	17,256
				79,266	120,080
				1,097	5,388
				29,603	238,615
				140,273	1,300,719
COMPLEMENTARY					
Silk, raw	Lb.	618	344	7,042	5,805
Wool, unmfd., free in bond	Lb.	16,244	13,889	178,013	149,152
Bananas	Bunch	4,325	4,799	38,574	38,321
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	183,376	203,977	2,448,301	2,351,643
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	47,476	38,074	470,646	425,942
Tea	Lb.	7,786	9,981	85,132	83,519
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	5,409	6,693	68,777	72,517
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	14	10	121	103
Rubber, crude	Lb.	115,858	134,168	1,161,857	1,053,828
Other complementary				8,510	87,114
Total complementary				177,888	2,127,827
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES				316,547	3,428,546
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				977,748	9,991,964
e/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight c/ Reported in value only.					

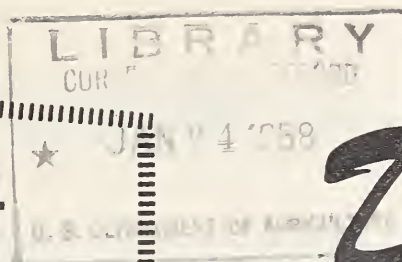
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FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES



Digest

JULY 1957

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Agricultural exports complete historic year; fiscal year 1957 total at alltime high. With preliminary June statistics now available, the fiscal year 1957 export value is estimated at \$4.7 billion. This total is 16 percent above the previous record of \$4.1 billion in 1952 and 35 percent above the \$3.5 billion in 1956. Export quantity also set a record, surpassing 1919, the previous quantity record, by 31 percent. The 1957 export quantity surpassed 1956 by 39 percent.

Cotton and wheat accounted for over 90 percent of value gain from 1956 to

U. S. Agricultural Exports Fiscal Years 1956 and 1957

Commodity	1956	1957 1/	% chg.
	\$ Million		
Cotton.....	372	1,125	+202
Grains.....	1,178	1,545	+ 31
Tobacco.....	379	335	- 12
Veg. oils, oilseeds.	410	450	+ 10
Fruits and vgs. ...	327	365	+ 12
Livestock products..	550	600	+ 9
Private relief 2/ ..	175	155	- 11
Other.....	103	135	+ 31
Total.....	3,494	4,710	+ 35
(1952-54 = 100)			
Quantity index.....	122	170	+ 39

1/ Partly estimated. 2/ Mostly CCC donations to private welfare agencies for distribution to needy persons overseas.

1957. Cotton exports alone accounted for 61 percent of the gain. They totaled 7.7 million bales, 2 1/2 times above the fiscal 1956 figure and the highest since 1934. The increase resulted from sales of CCC stocks of cotton at competitive world prices. Wheat exports set a new record: 535 million bushels, accounting for 30 percent of the 1957 increase over 1956. They totaled one-half larger than in 1956. Among other commodities, soybean oil was up 1 1/2 times; rice more than doubled. Exports declined principally for tobacco, sorghum grains, barley, flaxseed, cottonseed oil, and lard.

Preliminary export estimates for June: Exports are estimated at \$380 million this June, 5 percent above the \$362 million for May. Exports this June compared with \$352 million a year earlier, a gain of 8 percent; export quantity was up 13 percent. Commodities

showing gains included cotton, wheat, corn, tobacco, soybean oil, lard, and tallow. Declines occurred for other feed grains, rice, cottonseed oil, and flaxseed.

Exports of other countries not disrupted by U. S. increase. Preliminary information indicates that other countries are continuing to increase their exports of agricultural products. This is particularly significant in view of U. S. efforts to expand its own exports without disrupting world markets. Foreign exports continued to grow at about the same rate in 1956 as in the past several years. The sharp increase in U. S. exports has raised the U. S. share to 22 percent of the world total, which compares favorably with the 1948 and 1951 peak shares.

U. S. agricultural markets overseas more diversified. Five markets--the United Kingdom, West Germany, Japan, Canada, and the Netherlands--took 43 percent of U. S. agricultural exports in the July-April period of fiscal year 1957, latest period for which country data are available. Export value to the "top 5" gained by one-third over the 1956 period. More significant, however, is the fact that exports to other countries gained by two-thirds. The United States now ships substantial amounts of its farm products to more countries than ever before.

More exports were commercial sales. Commercial sales of agricultural commodities, excluding those under Government programs, increased about \$700 million to a total of \$2.8 billion in fiscal year 1957 compared with \$2.1 billion in 1956. Such sales comprised about 60 percent of total agricultural exports in each of the 2 years. Over 90 percent of the increase in exports under Government programs was in Public Law 480 Title I foreign currency sales.

U. S. Share in World Agricultural Exports
1955 and 1956 1/

Commodity	: 1955	: 1956
	Percent	
Lard.....	81	81
Soybeans and oil.....	71	81
Tallow.....	79	78
Cottonseed and oil.....	80	74
Milk, powdered.....	58	51
Wheat and flour.....	30	46
Grapefruit.....	43	46
Feed grains.....	49	41
Cotton, raw.....	24	38
Tobacco, unmd.	39	36
Linseed and oil.....	23	34
Dry beans.....	15	32
Milk, cond. and evap. .	17	20
Oranges.....	12	18
Rice, milled basis.....	10	16
Cheese.....	16	16

1/ Marketing year for wheat and feed grains; calendar, for other items.

Exports were the main outlet for CCC disposals. Three-fourths of CCC disposals were through export in fiscal year 1957, and 70 percent of CCC's export disposals were commercial sales. CCC export disposals increased from \$1.7 billion in 1956 to \$2.2 billion in 1957. The foreign market accounted for practically all disposals of upland cotton and over three-fourths of the disposals of wheat, rye, barley, beans, and nonfat dry milk solids.

Exports large relative to U. S. output. Last year, exports in relation to U. S. output were 59 percent for

TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

July 30, 1957

Export Accomplishments of U. S. Agriculture

(Trade News Roundup will be pleased to publish interesting stories on success in opening new markets for U. S. agricultural products.)

SAN SALVADOR. The government of El Salvador recently purchased 60 pure-bred Duroc hogs (15 boars and 45 sows from the United States. Arrangements were made through the American Duroc Record Association of Miami, Florida.

MADRID. The entire unit of dairy equipment used to recombine milk and ice cream at the Barcelona International Samples Fair has been sold to local business men. The equipment will be installed in Madrid and will use imported U. S. nonfat dry milk and anhydrous milk fat.

BARCELONA. The U. S. agricultural exhibit at the 25th International Samples Fair June 1-20, won two first prize awards for design, operation, and overall excellence. Six trade groups participated: Cotton Council International, Dairy Society International, Soybean Council of America, National

Grain Trade Council, American Seed Trade Association, and Institute of American Poultry Industries.

THE HAGUE. For the first time in many years, the Netherlands is issuing import licenses for U. S. turkeys. A turkey dinner was served to 75 Dutch men and women, including government officials, to demonstrate the quality of U. S. birds. Arrangements were made through the office of the U. S. agricultural attache and the Norbest Turkey Growers Association.

WASHINGTON. Mexican cattlemen were so pleased with their purchases of nearly 20,000 head of U.S. cattle under the Ex-Im Bank credit of October 1956 that a 2nd \$5-million credit was requested and was granted July 1. High grade animals are needed to build up herd quality.

Agricultural items that may be shipped to the USSR and its European satellites without the necessity of filing individual export license applications now include cattle hides, calf and kip skins, inedible tallow, specified fresh and processed fruits and vegetables, seed beans and peas, hops, and tobacco manufactures.

A fully stocked typical American supermarket, first ever shown in a Communist country, will highlight the second appearance of the United States at the International Fair at Zagreb, Yugoslavia, September 7-22. The exhibit is being developed and given by National Association of Food Chains.

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Reportedly due to increased stocks and imports, Canada on July 17 announced price support and import control on turkeys and fowl effective as of that date.

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Export-Import Bank credit of \$115 million to Japan was announced June 28, half for cotton and half for wheat, barley, and soybeans. This is the first time that the Bank is financing shipments of more than cotton to Japan. In addition, the Bank is prepared to extend a \$60-million cotton credit at the end of the present cotton growing season.

Japan's agricultural imports from the United States and from other countries are the subject of an FAS report just off the press. 11 charts.

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U. S. Tariff Commission notes:

Public hearings--Aug. 8, almonds, sec. 22; Aug. 20, figs, sec. 22; Dec. 3, garlic, sec. 7.

Commission recommended to the President July 2 that imports of exylone (ice cream mix) containing 45 percent or more butterfat be prohibited.

The President has extended for 2 fiscal years, but in modified form, the tariff quota on imports of alsike clover seed: Up to 3 million pounds may be imported at a duty of 2 cents a pound, more at 6 cents.

The President has extended for 2 years the present annual quota of 186 million pounds for imports of rye, rye meal, and rye flour.

Further easing of foreign restrictions that affect U. S. farm exports:

- ...United Kingdom: Long list of dollar items placed under Open General License, including grains, pulses, fats and oils, oilcake and meal, hides and skins, and cotton linters. Imports of natural cheese from North America being licensed upon application by traders who received licenses last year. Imports of honey permitted.
- ...West Germany: First free dollar tender published for U. S. hog, beef, and mutton variety meats. Oilcake and meal imports licensed from the dollar area. Premium payment plan on honey dropped.
- ...The Netherlands: Some rigid restrictions against poultry imports relaxed, including those on Newcastle disease.
- ...Sweden: Import taxes reduced for certain meats and meat products.
- ...Ireland: Importers of specified oilseed cake and meal exempted from import license requirements when products are consigned from outside continental Europe.
- ...Morocco: Import duty on oilseeds reduced.

cotton, 54 percent for wheat, and 83 percent for rice. Also 49 percent for rye, 45 percent for tallow and greases, 35 percent for soybeans and oil, 25 percent for tobacco and dry edible peas, and 22 percent for lard. Actually, exports did not come out of 1956 production alone; particularly for commodities in CCC inventories, they included production of earlier years.

U. S. imports fail to keep up with export growth. U. S. imports, agricultural and nonagricultural, in fiscal year 1957 were 62 percent of exports. This was a decline from 72 percent in 1956. Likewise for agriculture, imports were 84 percent of exports in 1957, 117 percent in 1956. Thus, a smaller share of dollars used by foreign countries to pay for U. S. exports came from our imports of goods. Foreign countries made up this trade deficit by drawing on their large accumulated dollar reserves and by obtaining more dollars from nontrade sources, including U. S. expenditures for foreign travel and investments and U. S. and international credits and grants.

Main factors in the 1957 export increase: Abundant U. S. supplies. Economic expansion and prosperity, particularly in Western Europe and Japan. Public Law 480. CCC sales for export at competitive world prices. Increasing population. Growth of agricultural production slackening in some areas abroad and barely keeping pace with population gains. Smaller output of some crops.

Here are the principal factors for the main commodity groups:

Cotton--Sales of CCC stocks at competitive world prices. Foreign inventory rebuilding. Smaller foreign supplies for export. Greater foreign consumption.

Wheat--Smaller European crop and inferior milling quality of much of it. Better buying ability of many importing countries. Government programs, which permitted improved nutritional levels in some low-income countries.

Rice--Reduced foreign supplies for export. Virtually all carryover stocks in exporting countries committed for export.

Fruits and vegetables--Short crops of oranges in Spain, prunes in Yugoslavia, almonds in the Mediterranean area, peas in Europe, and several items in Canada. More trade liberalization. Fruits to the United Kingdom under Government programs.

Vegetable oils and oilseeds--Increased consumption, particularly in Spain, 2 successive years of poor olive crops in Italy, reduced crops of rapeseed in Europe, and limited exportable supplies of soybeans and peanut oil from the Far East.

Livestock products--Frozen beef to Spain and Israel under Government programs. Variety meats to West Germany and the Netherlands.

Tobacco exports declined from high level. Tobacco leaf exports are estimated at 483 million pounds in fiscal year 1957, 15 percent under the 569 million figure in 1956, third highest on record. Exports were down mainly because of larger stocks accumulated abroad. Other factors: Higher U. S. prices for certain traditional export grades. Greater foreign competition. Unsuitable export quality of certain U. S. leaf.

Feed grain exports declined from a record level. Feed grain exports (excluding products) are estimated at 6.5 million short tons in fiscal year 1957, 20 percent less than the 8.1-million ton record of the previous year. Factors in the decline were mainly the large supplies of nonmillable wheat in Europe, an unprecedented barley crop in France, big supplies of barley and oats in Canada, and more corn available for export in Argentina. Only item to increase last year was corn.

Some export accumulations on a marketing year basis:

Cotton--August-June total 7.6 million bales (480 pounds each) in 1956-57, 2.2 million in 1955-56. (June 1957 estimated at 630 thousand bales from trade information received from the New York Cotton Exchange Service Bureau.)

Rice (milled only)--August-June total 22.1 million bags in 1956-57, 9.5 million in 1955-56.

Soybean and cottonseed oils--October-June total 1,070 million pounds in 1956-57, 864 million in 1955-56.

Soybeans--October-June total 68 million bushels in 1956-57, 59 million in 1955-56.

Lard--January-June total 300 million pounds in 1957, 349 million in 1956.

Inedible tallow and greases--January-June total 775 million pounds in 1957, 796 million in 1956.

IMPORT HIGHLIGHTS

May agricultural imports ran behind a year earlier. Total of \$310 million in 1957 compared with \$332 million in 1956. Supplementary (competitive) imports declined by \$7 million, complementary (noncompetitive) by \$15 million. Supplementary decline was the net result of reductions in hides and skins, pork, apparel wool, barley, copra, and molasses unfit for human consumption that were largely offset by increases in dutiable cattle, beef and veal, oats, vegetable oils, and cane sugar. Complementary decline resulted from smaller imports of coffee, cocoa beans, and carpet wool, partly offset by gains in crude rubber, bananas, and tea.

Compared with a year earlier, July-May imports were \$222 million less. Total for the 11 months is \$3,539 million in fiscal year 1957, 6 percent less than the \$3,761 million in 1956. The decline in the supplementary group amounted to \$35 million; in the complementary group, \$187 million. Rubber and cocoa beans accounted for 82 percent of the complementary drop.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS: May 1956 and 1957 and July-May 1955-56 and 1956-57 a/

Commodity exported	Unit	May		Value		Quantity		July-May	
		1956	1957	1956	1957	1955-56	1956-57	1955-56	1956-57
		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars	Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
Cheese	Lb.	3,294	616	1,495	247	32,336	40,458	11,362	15,213
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	9,645	13,034	1,428	2,009	140,868	152,005	21,082	23,921
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	3,951	3,940	1,835	1,973	43,206	37,820	21,411	18,415
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	26,127	18,290	2,907	2,151	207,431	244,419	22,722	26,204
Eggs, in the shell	Doz.	2,143	3,161	1,067	1,427	46,170	43,894	19,855	17,831
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	2,178	3,404	594	986	46,610	102,634	12,643	33,146
Pork, total b/	Lb.	6,807	6,414	1,544	2,161	65,760	71,196	15,989	21,697
Lard, incl. shortenings, (animal)	Lb.	68,955	65,738	9,053	9,908	593,487	509,518	75,267	74,368
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	127,360	101,588	10,257	8,792	1,222,561	1,244,120	101,055	101,863
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale	361	692	56,643	100,262	1,995	7,062	332,597	1,035,269
Apples, fresh	Lb.	6,936	4,199	492	373	99,152	82,816	7,955	7,370
Oranges and tangerines	Lb.	155,070	80,861	10,417	5,274	748,709	682,119	44,553	40,826
Prunes, dried	Lb.	4,936	8,246	889	1,165	68,223	118,832	12,422	19,047
Raisins and currants	Lb.	7,527	10,310	929	1,414	140,800	106,251	15,338	14,969
Fruits, canned *	Lb.	21,979	19,150	3,363	2,980	208,925	262,624	32,704	38,836
Fruit juices *	Gal.	1,983	2,330	2,741	3,455	12,815	14,854	17,712	20,854
Barley, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	9,930	5,684	10,529	7,002	87,840	54,437	91,607	64,924
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	11,644	14,076	19,211	20,171	110,462	130,141	167,174	196,548
Rice, milled, excludes paddy	Lb.	4,338	1,872	5,077	2,475	67,809	28,129	72,020	33,775
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	60,606	103,643	4,869	7,625	982,206	2,331,376	73,306	165,493
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	41,951	32,798	69,727	57,827	247,799	421,492	422,219	724,605
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Bu.	1,809	1,726	7,308	7,020	19,346	24,479	82,436	103,065
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	4,330	5,126	12,284	12,829	67,393	72,545	168,483	184,999
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	47,959	60,276	7,826	9,209	330,049	865,830	51,452	136,119
Tobacco, flue-cured	Lb.	27,909	3,551	8,133	514	581,008	413,591	85,513	62,832
Tobacco, leaf, other *	Lb.	7,038	4,506	3,841	17,822	467,527	380,102	313,031	261,156
Beans, dried	Lb.	23,641	51,583	1,364	3,389	73,555	68,968	45,404	45,745
Peas, dried (incl. cowpeas & chickpeas)	Lb.	2,096	5,028	163	2,796	161,906	236,015	11,761	14,838
Potatoes, white	Lb.	25,567	36,123	984	704	40,830	120,843	3,574	8,255
Vegetables, canned *	Lb.	8,904	12,042	1,118	1,366	327,143	269,939	8,481	7,881
Food exported for relief, etc.				23,737	15,966	86,548	116,406	11,421	15,277
Other agricultural commodities				59,543	51,269			153,884	140,020
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL				359,190	362,181			615,190	656,019
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				1,700,236	1,796,196			15,212,196	18,794,745

a/ Preliminary.

b/ Product weight.

* Composition of these groups include only those classes which were separately classified in the Bureau of the Census reporting Schedule G.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): May 1956 and 1957 and July-May 1955-56 and 1956-57 a/

Commodity imported	Unit	May		July-May	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1956	1957	1955-56	1956-57
		Thousands	dollars	Thousands	dollars
SUPPLEMENTARY					
Cattle, dutiable	No.	11	844	104	8,680
Cheese	Lb.	4,298	2,027	48,261	24,868
Hides and skins	Lb.	17,637	7,507	129,917	56,527
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	6,428	1,749	105,707	30,921
Pork, total b/	Lb.	15,967	10,555	147,091	98,731
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	20,903	15,251	175,903	107,506
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.)	Pale	6	1,329	141	27,203
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	8	1,630	72	14,285
Olives in brine	Gal.	1,082	1,969	12,827	21,880
Pineapples, canned, prep. or preserved	Lb.	13,083	1,474	73,917	8,471
Pineapple juice	Gal.	1,513	561	6,244	2,322
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	3,045	4,101	22,997	30,614
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	120	109	2,783	3,074
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	792	1,134	8,152	12,421
Feeds and fodders					
Nuts and preparations					
Copra	Lb.	58,389	31,920	616,006	585,651
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	33,687	42,417	418,588	442,880
Seeds, field and garden					
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	386	391	3,772	3,693
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	62,049	30,570	355,397	185,577
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	8,053	8,374	78,789	82,250
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,507	1,141	13,350	19,134
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	2,807	568	82,073	5,598
Other supplementary					
Total supplementary			26,249	26,204	264,827
COMPLEMENTARY					
Silk, raw	Lb.	545	2,217	7,587	31,581
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	12,545	7,575	190,558	111,808
Pananas	Bunch	4,401	6,401	42,975	62,683
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	213,283	107,882	2,661,583	1,325,724
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	64,508	15,872	535,154	155,403
Tea	Lb.	6,997	3,728	92,129	46,488
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	4,767	2,123	73,544	27,952
Sisal and benequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	13	2,254	134	21,828
Rubber, crude	Lb.	89,161	27,373	1,251,018	432,668
Other complementary					
Total complementary			182,827	167,908	2,310,655
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES			331,956	310,352	3,760,502
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES			1,072,929	1,088,511	11,064,892
a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.					

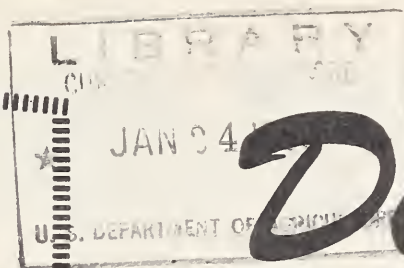
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FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES



Digest

AUGUST 1957

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Agricultural exports in July one-eighth ahead of a year earlier. Total is estimated at \$310 million this year compared with \$278 million in 1956, an increase of 12 percent. This July's exports were 19 percent under June's \$381 million. Quantitywise, July shipments were 10 percent ahead of a year earlier and 10 percent under June this year. Principal July gain over a year earlier was in cotton; notable gains also occurred for corn, tobacco, soybeans, and flaxseed.

Fiscal year preliminary export total is \$4,724 million. This is an alltime high, 17 percent above the previous record of \$4,053 million in fiscal year 1952 and 35 percent above the \$3,494 million in 1956. Export quantity surpassed 1919, the previous record, by 31 percent and exceeded 1956 by 39 percent. (For analysis, see July 1957 DIGEST.)

U. S. Agricultural Exports July 1956 and 1957

Commodity	1956	1957	1/	% chg.
	\$ Million			
Cotton.....	19	55		+189
Grains.....	117	100		- 15
Tobacco.....	15	20		+ 33
Veg. oils, seeds.	33	35		+ 6
Fruits and vogs..	30	30		0
Livestock prods..	43	45		+ 5
Private relief 2/	12	15		+ 25
Other.....	9	10		+ 11
Total.....	278	310		+ 12

(1952-54 = 100)

Quantity index... 152 167 + 10

1/ Estimated. 2/ Mostly CCC donations to private welfare agencies for overseas needy.

Exports to 5 principal markets up 30 percent in fiscal year 1957. Combined exports to the United Kingdom, Japan, West Germany, Canada, and the Netherlands increased from \$1,575 million in fiscal year 1956 to \$2,044 million in 1957. These shipments comprised 43 percent of the total for all countries in 1957 compared with 45 percent in 1956--still somewhat less than half. Largest gains over 1956 were achieved in shipments to West Germany, India, Italy, the United Kingdom, and Canada.

COTTON

Cotton exports in 1956-57 season largest in 24 years. July exports are estimated at about 400 thousand bales of 480 pounds net weight, according to information furnished by the New York

Cotton Exchange Service Bureau. Season's exports are estimated at 7.9 million bales, largest in 24 years, compared with 2.3 million in the 1955-56 season. U. S. exports had the effect of reducing domestic stocks by more than 3 million bales. The United States exported about as much as all other countries. Main reasons:

- ...The revival in U. S. exports followed action to sell all upland cotton in CCC inventories for export at competitive world prices. Sales since January 1956 now exceed 12 million bales; they have been accomplished without disrupting world cotton markets.
- ...Foreign supplies were tight last season; and with few exceptions, foreign countries turned to the United States for more cotton. Foreign exporting countries had less to export after liquidating stocks in 1955-56. Moreover, the uptrend in production abroad was halted after a gain of 4.7 million bales in 5 years. Except for small amounts of lower qualities, most countries moved all available cotton last year and left plenty of room for U. S. cotton in expanding world markets. Nearly all foreign cotton importing countries rebuilt their low early-season inventories last year; inventory rise totaled 1.4 million bales.
- ...Finally, foreign consumption of cotton last year continued the steady rise begun after World War II, reaching a new record high. Gain was 1.5 million bales in 1956-57 over 1955-56. In contrast with recent years, however, the main increase was in the large textile-producing countries of Western Europe and Asia. Previously, cotton-producing countries had accounted for much of the consumption rise. Adequate supplies and stable prices tended to improve cotton's position in competition with synthetics.

U. S. Agricultural Exports
Fiscal Years 1956 and 1957

Commodity	: 1956	: 1957	: %
	:	:	:chg.
	\$ Million		
Cotton.....	372	1,115	+200
Grains.....	1,178	1,553	+ 32
Tobacco.....	379	340	- 11
Veg. oils, seeds...	410	454	+ 11
Fruits and vogs. ..	327	363	+ 11
Livestock prods. ..	550	605	+ 10
Private relief <u>1/</u> .	175	159	- 9
Other.....	103	135	+ 30
Total.....	3,494	4,724	+ 35
(1952-54 = 100)			
Quantity index.....	122	170	+ 39

1/ Mostly CCC donations to private agencies for overseas needy.

GRAINS

July wheat exports down this year. Estimate of 35 million bushels for wheat and wheat flour in 1957 compares with 41 million in 1956. Exports in the 1956-57 season were a record 546 million bushels, surpassing the prior record of 504 million in 1949. Compared with 1955-56, exports to Asia rose most. While Europe remained the principal outlet for wheat grain, Asia supplanted the Western Hemisphere as the main flour outlet.

Rice exports set new record in 1956-57 season. July 1957

TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

August 30, 1957

Exporters, foreign importers, and foreign governments are expressing increased interest in credit for dollar purchases of U. S. agricultural commodities. Recent sale to Mexico of \$6 million worth of corn under CCC's Export Credit Sales Program is one indication of interest.

CCC program--designed to facilitate dollar sales of CCC commodities through private trade channels--complements Export-Import Bank financing. Bank assists overseas buyers or their banks in obtaining U. S. agricultural surpluses when adequate credit is not available from usual commercial sources. Following table compares the two programs' key provisions.

	:	CCC	:	EXPORT-IMPORT BANK
AVAILABLE COMMODITIES	:	Limited to commodities in CCC inventory and tobacco under loan to CCC. Commod- ities currently in CCC inventories: Butter, non- fat dry milk, cheddar cheese, wool, cotton, peanuts, corn, wheat (under special circum- stances), oats, barley, rye, grain sorghums, rice, dry edible beans, gum rosin and gum turpentine.	:	Not limited to CCC commodi- ties.
CREDIT PERIOD	:	Up to 3 years.	:	Usually 6 months to 1 year.
INTEREST RATES	:	Announced monthly: August 1957 rates per annum: Up to 6 mos. - 4-1/8% 6 to 18 mos. - 4-5/8% 18 to 36 mos. - 5-1/8%	:	Recently 5-1/4%; in future, dependent upon market con- ditions.
CARGO PREFERENCE ACT	:	Does not apply as a general rule.	:	Applies in all cases. (Waivers up to 50% generally granted)
CREDIT BENEFICIARY	:	U. S. exporter who in turn extends credit to foreign importer.	:	Foreign importer or foreign bank which finances purchases by foreign importer.
BANK OBLIGATION	:	Assurance of payment re- quired from bank in U. S. or foreign agency bank licensed under New York law.	:	Foreign bank guarantee re- quired if borrower is a foreign importer.
HOW TO APPLY	:	Letter or wire from U. S. exporter to Office of the General Sales Manager, CSS, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.	:	Letter from foreign importer or foreign bank to Export- Import Bank, Washington 25, D. C.

Further easing of foreign restrictions that affect U. S. farm exports:

- ...New Zealand: Imports of U. S. seeded raisins permitted equivalent to 30 percent of 1955 imports from Australia: U. S. exporters may ship as much as 300 tons. Until now, New Zealand has not been taking any U. S. seeded raisins.
- ...Italy: New dollar liberalization list includes cotton, animal casings, glands and organs for pharmaceutical purposes, two-row barley for beer making, arrowroot starch, wheat and corn gluten, inedible meat meal.
- ...Guatemala: Duty-free imports of 507,000 pounds of rice authorized, bringing total authorized since August 1, 1956 to 3,560,000 pounds. U. S. exports in this period were equivalent to three-fourths of authorized total.

* * *

U. S. agricultural commodities for export to European markets will be displayed at the ANUGA Fine Food Fair, Cologne, Germany, September 28-October 6. A total of 28 countries will participate. Private trade groups cooperating with USDA in the exhibition are American Meat Institute, Honey Industry Council of America, Nebraska Wheat Growers Association, Kansas Wheat Commission, Institute of American Poultry Industries, Tobacco Associates, Inc., Leaf Tobacco Exporters Association, and Burley and Dark Leaf Tobacco Export Association, Inc.

Venezuela intends to buy 2,000 head of beef cattle by the end of the year; has purchased over 200 purebred Hampshire, Duroc-Jersey, and Poland-China hogs and 400 purebred Rambouillet sheep. Purchases are for livestock breed improvement.

* * *

Traders' news:

- ...Tariff Commission is investigating date imports under section 22. Public hearings begin September 10.
- ..."Exylone" (ice cream mix) imports were prohibited after August 7 by Presidential proclamation under section 22.
- ...CCC's general sales manager now has a special representative, **Hayden J. Bennett**, stationed at the U. S. Embassy, The Hague, Netherlands.
- ...FAS is issuing--late in September--its second comprehensive report since World War II on foreign agricultural and trade policies. Write Division of Foreign Market Information, FAS.
- ...How to Use Recombined Milk Ingredients in Manufacturing Dairy Products, published by FAS, shows how nonfat dry milk solids and anhydrous milk fat can be used to produce buttermilk, cheese, yoghurt, table cream, ice cream, flavored milk drinks, whipped milk fat spread, and sterilized milk in countries where milk supply is inadequate.

exports are estimated at about half the July 1956 volume of 171 million pounds. Total for the 1956-57 marketing season is estimated at 2.6 billion pounds, more than twice the 1.2 billion in 1955-56. Last season's exports surpassed the previous record of 1.7 billion pounds in both the 1951-52 and 1952-53 seasons. (Figures include milled equivalent of paddy as well as Section 416 donations.) Exports consisted of part of large carryover stocks and much of the new crop.

- ...The bulk went to Asia, notably to Indonesia, Pakistan, India, and Korea, under Public Law 480. In Indonesia there was a decline in production, an increase in consumption, and a lack of reserve stocks. In East Pakistan floods caused considerable loss to the 1955-56 crop. At the same time that Asia needed more rice, the area's rice exporters were suffering from small crops and depleted stocks.
- ...Exports to the European countries were just double those of the previous year, and those to Cuba were about one-fourth above the 1955-56 level.
- ...Notable decline was in shipments to Japan, normally the world's heaviest importer of rice; she had abundant supplies from two good crops.

July feed grain exports down this year. USDA grain inspections indicate exports of 500 thousand short tons in 1957 compared with 548 thousand in 1956--less oats, barley, and sorghum grains; more corn.

Top Foreign Outlets for U. S. Agricultural Exports Fiscal Years 1956 and 1957			
Country	: 1956	: 1957	: %
	:	:	:rise
	\$ Million		
United Kingdom	395	497	26
Japan.....	372	458	23
West Germany..	270	445	65
Canada.....	287	384	34
Netherlands...	251	260	4
Italy.....	111	231	108
India.....	40	205	412
Belgium.....	134	170	27
Spain.....	126	150	19
France.....	84	142	69
Cuba.....	113	134	19
Yugoslavia....	100	128	28
Korea.....	50	126	152
Pakistan.....	48	93	94
Mexico.....	64	77	20
Other.....	1,049	1,224	17
Total.....	3,494	4,724	35

TOBACCO

July tobacco exports up this year.
Estimate of 27 million pounds in 1957 compares with 23 million in 1956.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

Soybean exports continue expansion.
With 6 million bushels inspected for export in July 1957, October-July shipment total reached 74 million bushels in the current season, 11 million above exports in the 1955-56 season. Exports have been rising for several years because of a strong foreign demand for oilseeds and oilseed products and lagging foreign supplies. Record domestic crops have increased amounts available for export.

Large flaxseed exports moving from CCC stocks. Flaxseed inspections for export totaled 3.5 million bushels in

July 1957, 1 million more than was exported in all of the previous year. Exports are starting to reflect the takeover of about 16 million bushels (about one-third) of the 1956 flaxseed crop and the sale of nearly all of it for export--or for domestic crushing for export sale of oil--at competitive world prices.

July edible vegetable oil exports down this year. July exports of cottonseed oil and soybean oil totaled an estimated 55 million pounds in 1957 compared with 109 million in 1956. October-July total is 1,137 million pounds in the 1956-57 season compared with 963 million in 1955-56. Consumption is rising in Spain, and Italy has been hit by 2 successive years of poor olive crops.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

July lard exports held up well this year. This July's total of 35 million pounds is 7 million under last July's. Despite some strengthening in exports in recent months, the January-July total is estimated at 330 million pounds in this year compared with 391 million in 1956. Less lard is available for export this year owing to limited supplies, higher prices, and greater use in domestic shortening.

Tallow exports this year just under last year's record rate. July inedible tallow and grease exports are estimated at 125 million pounds in 1957 compared with 117 million in 1956. January-July total is 900 million pounds in 1957, 7 million less than the record rate in 1956. Exports declined notably to West Germany and Italy, but there were sizable increases for Japan and Spain. Both price and quality make U. S. tallow well accepted the world over.

U. S. Wheat and Wheat Flour Exports by Destination Fiscal Years 1956 and 1957 1/

Country	: 1956	: 1957	: Change
	Million bushels		
India.....	9	67	+58
Japan.....	41	50	+ 9
United Kingdom.	25	40	+15
Yugoslavia.....	38	38	0
West Germany...	17	36	+19
France.....	8	31	+23
Pakistan.....	5	23	+18
Turkey.....	9	22	+13
Netherlands....	24	21	- 3
Greece.....	13	20	+ 7
Other.....	<u>156</u>	<u>198</u>	<u>+42</u>
Total.....	<u>345</u>	<u>546</u>	<u>+201</u>

1/ Includes Sec. 416 donations.

IMPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Fiscal year agricultural import total less in 1957, primarily in complementary class. Agricultural imports totaled \$3,800 million in fiscal year 1957 compared with \$4,086 million in 1956 and \$3,781 million in 1955. Supplementary (competitive) imports declined \$44 million from 1956 to 1957; complementary (noncompetitive) imports, \$242 million. Complementary imports were at their lowest level in 7 years. In the complementary class of imports, notable declines occurred for rubber (-\$112 million), coffee (-\$55 million), cocoa beans (-\$45 million), and carpet wool (-\$16 million).

DOMESTIC EXPORTS: June 1956 and 1957, and year beginning July 1955-56 and 1956-57 a/

Commodity exported	Unit	June		Value		Year beginning July		Value	
		Quantity	1957	1956	dollars	1957	1955-56	1956-57	dollars
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	dollars	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	dollars
Cheese	Lb.	6,719	1,868	2,496	583	39,055	43,368	1,000	13,858
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	12,838	16,306	2,059	2,529	153,707	168,311	23,141	26,449
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	3,880	3,183	1,859	1,467	47,086	41,003	23,269	19,882
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	30,100	25,686	4,106	3,462	237,531	277,105	26,828	30,776
Eggs, in the shell	Doz.	3,092	2,978	1,366	1,260	49,263	46,872	21,220	19,091
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	6,089	8,451	2,061	2,485	52,698	182,987	14,704	38,912
Pork, total b/	Lb.	5,690	12,359	1,689	5,204	71,450	84,035	17,678	27,140
Lard, incl. shortenings, (animal)	Lb.	44,763	48,705	5,758	6,997	638,249	558,223	81,025	81,365
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	107,798	112,806	9,050	9,413	1,330,359	1,359,024	110,105	111,390
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale	247	553	39,286	79,738	2,241	7,615	371,883	1,115,116
Apples, fresh	Lb.	2,953	1,643	218	190	102,105	84,459	8,173	7,560
Oranges and tangerines	Lb.	84,735	71,047	5,366	4,348	833,445	753,166	49,919	45,174
Prunes, dried	Lb.	5,427	3,003	916	505	73,650	121,835	13,338	19,552
Raisins and currants	Lb.	11,420	5,827	1,392	894	152,220	112,078	16,730	15,862
Fruits, canned *	Lb.	23,138	22,567	3,492	3,395	232,063	285,191	36,196	42,231
Fruit juices *	Gal.	1,928	1,437	2,723	1,640	14,742	16,291	20,435	22,494
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	10,400	3,167	11,695	3,328	98,240	57,604	103,302	68,252
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	9,205	10,155	15,120	14,539	119,667	140,291	182,293	211,079
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu.	5,025	656	5,919	790	72,834	28,996	77,939	34,821
Rice, milled, excludes paddy	Lb.	100,375	71,008	7,588	5,287	1,082,581	2,402,384	80,895	170,870
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	44,378	51,405	73,613	91,426	292,352	473,791	496,271	817,886
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.) ..	Bag	2,217	2,334	9,030	9,433	21,564	26,898	91,466	112,972
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Bu.	3,704	3,482	11,096	8,600	71,097	76,686	179,579	195,753
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	41,292	60,404	6,748	8,956	371,340	926,421	58,201	144,745
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc. ...	Lb.	70,531	26,355	11,492	4,066	651,539	447,558	97,005	67,772
Tobacco, flue-cured	Lb.	24,005	30,222	14,452	21,429	491,533	411,587	327,483	283,563
Tobacco, leaf, other *	Lb.	6,191	9,093	4,132	7,024	79,746	78,061	49,536	52,768
Beans, dried	Lb.	30,224	47,811	1,721	2,651	192,131	283,999	13,482	17,496
Peas, dried (incl. cowpeas & chickpeas) ..	Lb.	1,317	3,127	102	213	42,148	123,970	3,677	8,467
Potatoes, white	Lb.	48,386	45,329	2,197	809	375,529	315,268	10,678	8,690
Vegetables, canned *	Lb.	13,601	20,502	2,037	2,515	100,149	136,909	13,459	17,792
Food exported for relief, etc.				20,750	18,598			174,634	158,771
Other agricultural commodities				70,634	56,771			685,823	713,130
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL				352,163	380,545			3,494,225	4,723,771
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				1,682,600	1,764,259			16,895,700	20,655,127

a/ Preliminary.

b/ Product weight.

*Composition of these groups includes only those classes which were separately classified in the Bureau of the Census reporting schedule G.

Compiled from official records. Bureau of the Census.

IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): June 1956 and 1957, and year beginning July 1955-56 and 1956-57 a/

Commodity Imported	Unit:	June			Year beginning July		
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1956	1957	1956	1957	1955-56	1956-57
		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars	Thousands	dollars
SUPPLEMENTARY							
Cattle, dutiable	No.	6	28	613	2,311	109	259
Cheese	Lb.	3,762	4,202	1,776	1,909	52,022	54,855
Hides and skins	Lb.	14,362	9,510	6,414	3,992	144,279	123,709
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	8,618	11,043	2,170	2,854	114,326	141,314
Pork, total b/	Lb.	13,099	10,805	8,949	8,217	160,190	129,142
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	11,465	9,659	8,699	8,431	187,368	130,302
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.)	Bale	4	4	907	516	145	84
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	4	8	820	2,042	76	57
Olive in brine	Gal.	873	1,083	1,654	1,957	13,700	10,347
Pineapples, canned, prep. or preserved	Lb.	12,004	10,025	1,446	1,134	85,921	94,271
Pineapple juice	Gal.	1,495	431	549	156	7,739	9,861
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	2,938	1,246	4,033	1,722	25,934	24,086
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	67	2,151	69	1,609	2,850	16,543
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	1,593	1,336	2,436	2,126	9,746	7,712
Feeds and fodders	Bu.	c/	c/	739	863	c/	c/
Nuts and preparations	Lb.	c/	c/	3,964	3,850	c/	c/
Copra	Lb.	52,619	31,401	3,359	1,900	668,625	617,052
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	37,227	33,844	6,632	6,676	455,815	476,724
Seeds, field and garden	Lb.	c/	c/	503	336	c/	c/
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	416	369	44,180	41,228	4,188	4,066
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	55,197	17,874	5,769	3,239	410,594	203,463
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	6,519	7,138	4,428	5,063	85,309	89,464
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	998	766	1,429	1,177	14,347	13,136
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	72	280	8	24	82,145	120,928
Other supplementary	Lb.			21,214	19,390		
Total supplementary				132,760	122,722		
COMPLEMENTARY							
Silk, raw	Lb.	589	357	2,490	1,406	8,175	6,575
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	13,394	10,328	8,275	6,435	203,953	169,645
Bananas	Bunch	4,332	3,767	6,332	5,438	47,308	46,898
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	238,021	157,626	125,715	78,299	2,899,605	2,707,224
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	49,991	55,368	11,568	13,306	585,146	514,799
Tea	Lb.	9,893	8,525	4,909	3,849	102,022	102,720
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	5,786	3,657	2,223	1,324	79,330	81,368
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	6	7	959	970	140	119
Rubber, crude	Lb.	82,193	67,851	23,108	18,868	1,333,044	1,239,369
Other complementary	Lb.			7,131	6,529		
Total complementary				192,710	136,424		
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES				325,470	259,146		
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				1,029,066	979,366		

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.

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OCT 2 - 1958

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES

Digest

SEPTEMBER 1957

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

July-August exports of farm products 7 percent above year-ago level. Agricultural exports in the July-August period are estimated at \$655 million in 1957 compared with \$612 million in 1956. Largest commodity increases were those for cotton, vegetable oils and oilseeds, and tobacco. With the exception of corn, exports of grains and feeds declined. (See table below.)

August export value this year about the same as last year. August 1957 exports of agricultural commodities are estimated at \$340 million, 2 percent above the \$334 million in August 1956. (July 1957 exports surpassed those of a year earlier by 14 percent.) This August's value was 8 percent larger than July's \$316 million. Main increases this August over July were those for corn, soybeans, and tobacco.

U. S. Agricultural Exports
July-August

Commodity	1956	1957	% chg.
	\$ Million		
Cotton.....	85	125	+ 47
Grains and feeds..	247	215	- 13
Tobacco.....	39	45	+ 15
Veg. oils, seeds..	57	70	+ 23
Fruits and vogs..	57	60	+ 5
Livestock prods..	87	85	- 2
Private relief 2/	24	40	+ 67
Other.....	16	15	- 6
Total.....	612	655	+ 7

(1952-54 + 100)

Quantity index... 168 177 + 5
1/ Partly estimated. 2/ Mostly CCC donations to welfare agencies for overseas needy.

COTTON

August cotton exports at year-ago level; season total to be smaller.

August 1957 exports of cotton, excluding linters, are estimated from information furnished by the New York Cotton Exchange Service Bureau at 440 thousand bales (480 lbs. net weight). This is approximately the same as the quantities shipped in July 1957 and August 1956. CCC sales of upland cotton at competitive world prices for export under the 1957-58 program totaled 3.7 million bales through September 17. Prospects are for 2.0 to 2.5 million bales smaller exports this season than last season mainly because of the larger stocks of U. S. cotton now in importing countries and a general tightening abroad of avail-

able supplies of dollar exchange. Exports in the 1956-57 season totaled 7.9 million bales.

U. S. Cotton Exports by Country of Destination
Year Beginning August 1

Country	1953	1954	1955	1956
- - 1,000 bales (480 lbs. net) - -				
Japan.....	1,005	678	873	1,588
West Germany.....	389	350	74	1,061
United Kingdom....	422	421	153	1,049
Italy.....	269	249	105	720
France.....	475	416	178	432
Canada.....	237	307	75	380
Belgium.....	68	66	30	337
India.....	161	61	9	301
Netherlands.....	104	95	17	260
Other.....	784	942	806	1,784
Total.....	3,914	3,585	2,320	7,912

TOBACCO

July-August tobacco exports steady this year. August tobacco exports are estimated at 36 million pounds in 1957, the same as a year earlier. July-August total amounted to 65 million pounds in 1957 compared with 59 million in 1956.

GRAINS

Better foreign crops reducing wheat exports. Wheat exports are estimated at 35 million bushels in August 1957, 3 million more than in July 1957 but 8 million less than in August 1956. For the July-August period, shipments of 67 million bushels this year contrasted with 84 million last year, a decline of 20 percent. Current appraisal indicates this year's exports will be about 400 million bushels. This compares with last year's total of 548 million bushels. Smaller exports this season will reflect principally the large crops in most importing countries.

Rice exports well under year-ago levels. Rice exports are estimated at 450,000 bags in August 1957, first month of the 1957-58 season, well under the 2,783 thousand bags exported in August 1956. A year ago, large shipments were made to Pakistan and Indonesia under Public Law 480. Less rice is expected to be exported this season than last because much of last season's export total of 26.3 million bags came out of CCC's accumulated inventories. (See table, page 5.)

TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

September 30, 1957

A recent dollar tender issued by West Germany for the importation of U. S. broilers, hens, and turkeys is an outstanding example of the use of the Title I program in efforts to expand commercial marketings.

Last year, under the Title I program, U. S. ready-to-cook poultry was introduced and 3.6 million pounds were sold to West Germany for German marks. Subsequently, part of the marks were used for market promotion in West Germany, and efforts were made by the U. S. agricultural attache and the trade to obtain a liberalization of poultry imports into Germany. The result was the recent dollar tender. It is expected that the quantity to be shipped under commercial arrangements will approach the 1956 shipments under Title I.

To assist exporters in sending Germany only top-grade products, properly packed and labeled, the Institute of American Poultry Industries has issued a special bulletin, "Shipping Poultry to West Germany."

* * *

U. S. exports of dairy and beef breeding cattle were 2 1/2 times larger in the first half of 1957 than in the comparable period of 1956: 32,184 head compared with 12,842 head. Improvement is due chiefly to market development efforts of the U. S. agricultural attache in Mexico, which accounted for most of the gain. Shipments to Mexico were aided by a \$5-million Export-Import Bank credit.

FAS has translated into Spanish and Portuguese several pamphlets to assist prospective Latin-American buyers of U. S. dairy cattle. Pamphlets were prepared in cooperation with representatives of the 5 leading U. S. dairy breed associations (Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, and Jersey). Publications are "Care and Management of Dairy Cattle" (Farmers Bulletin 1470), "Guide for Buyers of Dairy Cattle in the United States," and 5 brochures (1 for each of the leading breeds).

* * *

The United States on October 17 will join 24 countries in an international agreement which will make it easier for U. S. exporters to send commercial samples and advertising materials to prospective customers abroad. Leading participants include nearly all European countries, Japan, India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, and the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

Samples agreement, negotiated under sponsorship of member nations of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in response to suggestions from the International Chamber of Commerce, is an important step toward expanding world trade. Technique of permitting prospective customers to see, feel, or taste products before ordering is gaining wider use in world trade.

Further easing of foreign restrictions that affect U. S. farm exports:

- ...Australia: Licensing controls modified on cotton.
- ...Argentina: Imports of seed potatoes allowed from all sources.
- ...Netherlands: No restrictions on U. S. apples and pears until Oct. 31.
- ...Sweden: Import licenses not required for many dollar commodities.
- ...Guatemala: Butter imports no longer restricted.
- ...Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland: Fruit juices and soups removed from prohibited list.

* * *

Section 22 actions during September:

- ...The Tariff Commission recommended fee of 10 cents a pound, but not more than 50 percent ad valorem, on almond imports over 3.5 million pounds for the year beginning October 1.
- ...The Commission recommended no action on fig imports for the 1957-58 crop year; but advised against action to restore GATT tariff concession modified in 1952 under "escape clause" action.
- ...The President limited tung oil imports until October 31, 1960. He established three annual quotas of 26 million pounds, the first to include the remainder of the current and all of the next crop year.
- ...The Commission scheduled public hearings November 13 on harsh or rough cotton imports having a staple of less than 3/4" to determine if quota restrictions should be continued.

* * *

Fruit news:

- ...Higher quality exports are expected from raising of quality standards for fresh apples starting October 11. Minimum grade will be raised from U. S. Utility to U. S. No. 1 Cookers; U. S. No. 1 Early will remain minimum for early variety.
- ...Wooden box and carton rate on fresh apples and pears shipped in ordinary stowage to specified European ports have been reduced by Transatlantic Associated Freight Conferences from \$1.00 to 75¢ effective September 19, 1957 through March 31, 1958. Lines expect increase in trade to more than offset reduction in rate.
- ...Consumers in several European countries have requested their governments to lower or abolish import duties on fruit. Prices are high, and most deciduous crops are smaller.

U. S. Rice Exports by Country Year Beginning August 1/			
Country	: 1955	: 1956	: Change
- Million bags -			
Indonesia..	0.5	5.4	+ 4.9
Pakistan...	2.7	4.4	+ 1.7
India.....	0.2	4.4	+ 4.2
Cuba.....	2.9	4.1	+ 1.2
Korea.....	<u>2/</u>	2.8	+ 2.8
Japan.....	2.4	0.1	- 2.3
Other.....	<u>4.1</u>	<u>5.1</u>	+ 1.0
Total....	12.8	26.3	+13.5
1/ Includes Sec. 416 donations.			
2/ Less than 50,000 bags.			

Higher quality wheat crop in Europe increasing demand for U. S. corn.

August exports of feed grains are estimated at 820 thousand short tons, an increase of 37 percent over a year earlier. Total for the July-August period is 1,335 thousand short tons this year compared with 1,144 thousand tons last year, a gain of 17 percent. Corn exports increased considerably, more than offsetting declines for oats, barley, and sorghum grains. Corn exports to Europe have been stimulated by the attractive U. S. price and by the higher quality of this year's European wheat crop.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

Recent declines in exports of edible vegetable oils reflect larger shipments earlier in the season. August 1957 exports of cottonseed and soybean oils are estimated at about half of August 1956 exports which amounted to 97 million pounds. August was the 4th month in a row in which exports were under year-ago levels. Recent declines reflect extremely heavy movement of oil in the early part of the marketing year, mostly shipments under Public Law 480. The October-August export total of 1,185 million pounds this year is 10 percent ahead of the 1,080 million pounds moved last year.

Record soybean exports moving from record domestic crops. With 5 million bushels of soybeans exported in August 1957, the October-August shipment total reached an estimated 78 million bushels in the current season, 13 million bushels above exports in the 1955-56 year. Record domestic crops have helped make it possible for exports to reach record levels. Exports have been rising for several years because of strong foreign demand and lagging foreign supplies.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

August 1957 lard exports abnormally low; improvement expected. Lard exports totaled an estimated 24 million pounds this August, abnormally low. A year earlier, exports amounted to 41 million pounds. For the January-August period, this year's exports were a little over 350 million pounds compared with last year's 432 million. Lard prices, which have been running above a year earlier, are expected to decline slightly during the fall and winter months, reflecting the increase in available supplies. Export shipments are likely to pick up then.

Tallow exports to be aided by Title I shipments to Poland. Exports of inedible tallow and greases were an estimated 80 million pounds in August 1957, 45 million less than a year earlier. August 1957 exports were lowest

since November 1956. For the January-August period, exports amounted to over 980 million pounds in 1957 compared with 1,038 million in 1956. Shipments under Title I of Public Law 480 (sales for foreign currency) will help maintain tallow exports at a record level this year. 33 million pounds are scheduled for Poland and 5 million pounds each for the Philippines and Ecuador by the end of the year.

FRUITS

September-July prune exports larger this season; raisin exports smaller. Despite some dried prune export losses in June and July, the September-July total was 117 million pounds in the 1956-57 marketing year, 58 percent more than the 74 million pounds in the 1955-56 season. Two factors brought about this development: Last year's large U. S. crop and the light Yugoslav crop. Export total for raisins and currants was 97 million pounds in the September-July period this marketing year, 36 percent less than the 151 million pounds last marketing year. Principal factor in the decline was the below-average U. S. raisin supply in the past year.

IMPORT HIGHLIGHTS

July agricultural imports smaller this year than last. Agricultural imports in July totaled \$322 million in 1957 compared with \$339 million in 1956, a decline of 5 percent. This July's imports were 24 percent greater than the June value of \$259 million, reflecting primarily increases in coffee and crude natural rubber.

...Compared with 1956, July imports of complementary agricultural commodities (the kinds not competitive with U. S. products) were \$27 million less in 1957. The decline came about mainly as reductions in coffee imports more than offset gains for cacao beans and crude natural rubber.

...July imports of supplementary agricultural commodities (the kinds competitive with U. S. products) registered a gain of \$10 million in 1957 over 1956. Main increases were those for dutiable cattle, oats, cane sugar, and molasses unfit for human consumption. Imports were down for hides and skins, apparel wool, and barley.

Coffee imports slow in anticipation of easing prices. July's imports of coffee, which account for one-third of the agricultural import value, amounted to 208 million pounds in 1957, 66 million less than in 1956. Fiscal year 1956-57 imports were less than 1955-56 imports: 2,707 million pounds in contrast with 2,900 million pounds. The decline is attributed by the trade to a defensive market and roaster resistance in expectation of more ample supplies and easing prices.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS: July 1956 and 1957 a/

Commodity exported	Unit	July			
		Quantity		Value	
		1956	1957	1956	1957
		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
Cheese	Lb.	2,005	1,212	659	426
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	14,251	12,149	2,220	1,912
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	2,854	4,561	1,443	1,928
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	37,082	18,989	3,780	3,220
Eggs, in the shell	Doz.	2,509	3,040	1,071	1,257
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	6,500	1,637	2,122	679
Pork, total b/	Lb.	4,602	5,036	1,370	1,754
Lard, incl. shortenings, (animal)	Lb.	42,249	34,795	5,344	5,055
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	110,689	117,384	9,011	9,968
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale	140	438	19,365	62,858
Apples, fresh	Lb.	4,770	4,476	374	399
Oranges and tangerines	Lb.	58,317	62,005	3,301	3,691
Prunes, dried	Lb.	6,009	3,864	1,073	571
Raisins and currants	Lb.	11,442	3,921	1,444	613
Fruits, canned *	Lb.	13,141	17,972	2,084	2,606
Fruit juices *	Gal.	1,311	1,890	1,973	2,087
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	8,671	4,122	10,149	4,187
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	6,727	10,478	10,977	14,848
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu.	4,081	3,626	4,698	3,883
Rice, milled, excludes paddy	Lb.	170,602	109,148	12,761	9,136
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	37,247	27,819	61,711	51,108
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	1,603	1,902	6,605	8,328
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Bu.	3,709	4,629	10,668	11,829
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	57,821	34,343	9,381	5,181
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc. .	Lb.	50,718	21,938	8,287	3,533
Tobacco, flue-cured	Lb.	16,491	25,037	11,077	17,145
Tobacco, leaf, other *	Lb.	6,054	3,015	4,234	2,669
Beans, dried	Lb.	40,797	33,721	2,163	2,121
Peas, dried	Lb.	1,709	3,484	116	266
Potatoes, white	Lb.	37,599	25,372	2,078	512
Vegetables, canned *	Lb.	6,846	14,444	1,245	1,743
Food exported for relief, etc.				12,287	18,759
Other agricultural commodities				52,564	61,660
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL				277,635	315,932
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				1,627,461	1,674,515

a/ Preliminary.

b/ Product weight.

*Composition of these groups includes only those classes which were separately classified in the Bureau of the Census reporting schedule G.

Compiled from official records. Bureau of the Census.

IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): July 1956 and 1957 a/

Commodity imported	Unit	July		Value	
		Quantity			
		1956	1957	1956	1957
SUPPLEMENTARY				1,000	1,000
		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
Cattle, dutiable	No.	4	24	580	3,020
Cheese	Lb.	3,168	2,850	1,679	1,508
Hides and skins	Lb.	11,218	6,608	4,782	2,748
Beef and veal, total b/.....	Lb.	9,920	11,796	2,607	3,140
Pork, total b/.....	Lb.	12,626	11,121	8,840	8,613
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	11,574	8,862	9,805	7,786
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale	2	6	324	1,359
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	3	4	708	938
Olives in brine	Gal.	931	1,222	1,728	2,098
Pineapples, canned, prepared or pres. .	Lb.	9,916	10,553	1,161	1,218
Pineapple juice	Gal.	328	874	121	315
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	3,177	1,139	4,244	1,416
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	122	2,871	119	2,119
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	287	604	424	791
Feeds and fodders	c/	c/	c/	1,007	1,093
Nuts and preparations	c/	c/	c/	4,245	5,066
Copra	Lb.	44,700	60,031	2,318	3,707
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	45,623	38,299	7,798	6,832
Seeds, field and garden	c/	c/	c/	963	407
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	405	426	42,683	48,871
Molasses, unfit for human consumption .	Gal.	25,920	28,615	2,664	5,145
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	7,593	9,413	5,542	6,827
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,057	1,103	1,600	1,727
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	493	1,292	28	77
Other supplementary				24,751	24,334
Total supplementary				131,221	141,155
COMPLEMENTARY					
Silk, raw	Lb.	499	405	2,101	1,599
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	13,926	11,957	8,499	7,725
Bananas	Bunch	3,801	3,897	5,707	5,670
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	273,733	208,484	140,703	109,415
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	46,012	48,532	10,802	12,473
Tea	Lb.	7,564	8,437	3,509	3,756
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	7,615	6,799	3,126	2,556
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	8	10	1,288	1,431
Rubber, crude	Lb.	92,745	100,263	24,831	28,289
Other complementary				7,578	7,814
Total complementary				208,144	180,728
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES				339,365	321,883
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				1,045,853	1,138,219

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

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FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES



OCTOBER -

NOVEMBER 1957

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

Effective with this combined OCTOBER-NOVEMBER issue, the DIGEST will be issued early each month instead of late. The combination of the October and November issues makes possible the new publication date.

EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Agricultural exports now running at less than last year's record rate. July-September quarter export total is estimated at \$935 million this fiscal year, 5 percent under the comparable \$980 million in 1956. First quarter total is ahead of the \$750 million in 1955 and the \$580 million in 1953, year of the post-Korean slump. Compared with last year, exports of some products in the first quarter this fiscal year are still ahead or holding up well while others are lagging. Corn, soybeans, and flaxseed are well ahead; cotton, only slightly. Tobacco and fruits and vegetables are about the same. Wheat,

rice, rye, barley, sorghum grains, oats, cottonseed oil, soybean oil, lard, and tallow are behind. For tallow, however, higher prices are maintaining the export value at last year's rate.

U. S. Agricultural Exports July-September

Commodity	1956	1957 1/2	% chg.
	\$ Million		
Cotton.....	165	175	+ 6
Grains and feeds..	352	285	- 19
Tobacco.....	94	95	+ 1
Veg. oils, seeds..	84	95	+ 13
Fruits and vogs...	87	85	- 2
Livestock prods...	138	135	- 2
Private relief 2/.	33	35	+ 6
Other.....	27	30	+ 11
Total.....	980	935	- 5

(1952-54 = 100)

Quantity index.... 171 159 - 7

1/ Partly estimated. 2/ Mostly CCC donations to welfare agencies for overseas needy.

September's exports this year well under last year. Export estimate of \$300 million for September this year compares with actual shipment value of \$368 million in September 1956 and \$313 million in August 1957. Compared with a year ago, September shipments were smaller for cotton, wheat, rice, all feed grains but corn, tobacco, lard, and cottonseed and soybean oils. Soybeans and flaxseed were up, and tallow about the same.

Weaker dollar exchange position abroad likely to hinder exports. Rec-

ord exports last fiscal year (\$4.7 billion for agricultural and \$16 billion for nonagricultural commodities) were financed extensively through a reduction in the rate of foreign dollar reserve accumulation and, for several countries, through substantial drawdown of reserves built up earlier. Some of our foreign customers experienced losses in reserves (e.g., Japan and the Netherlands) or had a tight balance of payments position (e.g., the United Kingdom). This group of countries is likely to take steps to recoup earlier losses and to increase reserves. Agricultural exports to these countries will be hit hardest. Some countries (e.g., Canada and West Germany) strengthened their reserve position; consequently, they may maintain or even increase purchases of U. S. agricultural commodities. Among the other countries--particularly the less developed ones--gold and dollar reserves declined only moderately or not at all (e.g., India, Indonesia, and Pakistan). Agricultural exports to these countries under Public Law 480 were heavy last year; export programs are likely to continue important this year.

Higher interest rates abroad limiting foreign purchases. Inflation abroad--in the form of higher interest rates--is affecting U. S. agricultural exports. Higher interest rates have discouraged the carrying of large inventories--a situation likely to hit exports of cotton in particular but also other storable raw materials.

COTTON

Cotton exports facing reduced foreign demand and dollar exchange. August-September total, excluding linters, is estimated at three-fourths of a million bales (480 pounds net weight) this season, about one-fourth under last season. This season's decline is attributed to an apparent slowdown in purchases following last season's heavy movement. Currently, stocks of U. S. cotton in importing countries are larger, and supplies of dollar exchange are limited. (In fact, Japan has arranged with the Export-Import Bank for two \$60 million credits to finance part of its imports of U. S. cotton this season.) Most of the U. S. export decline, according to August country data, was in exports to France, Canada, India, Korea, and Japan; it was partly offset by increased quantities going to West Germany and Belgium. The decline was less marked for Europe than for other areas.

TOBACCO

July-September tobacco leaf exports this year even with last year. September shipments are estimated at 70 million pounds this year, 10 million less than last year. July-September total was 138 million pounds both this year and last. The small size of this year's U. S. crop of flue-cured leaf and the marked advance in prices of certain grades sought by some foreign buyers are likely to reduce export purchases from the current crop. However, total flue-cured supply, including old-crop tobacco, is large, and some export purchases from stocks are anticipated. Total supplies of other kinds of tobacco also are ample although particular grades, especially in burley, are short.

TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

October 31, 1957

Secretary Benson and staff departed October 22 on a market development survey in 12 nations and Hong Kong. The 12 countries: Japan, India, Pakistan, Jordan, Israel, Turkey, Greece, Italy, Spain, Portugal, France, and Iceland. Chief purpose is to review results of U. S. agricultural export programs to obtain information for direction of future activities. Primary emphasis will be on possibilities of expanding markets abroad on a commercial basis.

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National policies of individual countries regarding agriculture have an important bearing upon the size and composition of world trade in agricultural products. U. S. exporters frequently find these policies seriously limit market opportunities. To provide comprehensive and up-to-date information, FAS has just published results of a study, Agricultural Policies of Foreign Governments Including Trade Policies Affecting Agriculture (Agriculture Handbook No. 132).

Topics covered: Dependence of each area on trade in farm products. Goals of agricultural policy as explicitly stated or as implicit in actions of governments. Regulation of foreign trade and internal market and price policies, including price supports, direct subsidies, and production controls. Indirect aids for agriculture, such as credit, extension services, and land or development policies.

General conclusions:

- ...Government controls over agriculture and agricultural trade in Free World countries are generally designed to protect domestic farm prices and income and to promote production. Emphasis varies, however.
- ...In pursuit of policy goals, nearly all Free World countries provide price and income support to agriculture. Various devices are used.
- ...Practically all countries rely heavily on some forms of trade regulation to carry out policy objectives.
- ...In most developed and many underdeveloped countries, internal market and price regulations have been coupled with foreign trade controls as instruments of agricultural policy. In some areas, however, such as Far East and Latin America, internal controls are most frequently used to keep consumer prices in check.
- ...Agriculture in most countries benefits from a variety of indirect government aids that aim at improving farm income through greater efficiency of production, transportation, and distribution. Aids

include farm credit assistance, tax concessions, land reclamation and resettlement, regional development projects, and consolidation of scattered land holdings. One far-reaching contribution is expansion of education and agricultural extension work.

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Largest sale of corn made to date under Title I of Public Law 480 was announced October 23: 20.5 million bushels to Mexico. Agreement is first concluded since law was extended with an additional \$1 billion authorization. New feature of agreement is that 25 percent of pesos accruing from sale of corn will be set aside for loans to U. S. and Mexican private business firms through Export-Import Bank with concurrence of Mexican Government. The Bank is now prepared to receive applications for loans under the Mexican agreement.

Severe drought in Australia may seriously limit its wheat exports and is expected to offer opportunities for additional exports of wheat from the United States and Canada as well as other exporting countries.

Export-Import Bank has signed a \$60 million loan agreement with Bank of Japan to finance purchases of U. S. cotton this crop year. Loan is in addition to \$115 million to finance purchases of cotton, wheat, barley, soybeans, and tobacco.

Mexico is now organizing teams to buy breeding cattle in the near future under the second \$5 million Ex-Im Bank loan to improve Mexican herds.

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Further easing of foreign restrictions that affect U. S. farm exports:

...West Germany: Reductions or exemptions in import tariffs for fresh citrus fruits, grapes, apples, and pears, Sept. 1-Dec. 31, 1957.

...Sweden: Seasonal import embargo for pears lifted Oct. 12, for apples to be lifted Dec. 9.

...Uruguay: Potatoes freed from import taxes until Dec. 31.

...Belgium: To grant import licenses for pears after Dec. 1 and for apples after Feb. 1.

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Section 22 actions:

The President has accepted Tariff Commission's report on dried figs and fig paste: Section 22 import restrictions will not be applied. Also, on the basis of Commission findings, no action will be taken now to decrease duty on figs.

The President has proclaimed on the basis of another Section 22 finding an import fee on almonds of 10 cents a pound but not more than 50 percent ad valorem on quantities in excess of 5 million pounds effective Oct. 23, 1957 through Sept. 30, 1958.

GRAINS

U. S. wheat exports being curtailed by reduced import requirements. Exports of wheat and wheat flour are estimated at 28 million bushels this September compared with 34 million both a year earlier and this August. July-September volume is estimated at 97 million bushels this year compared with 118 million last year. Substantially more went to India, Poland, Brazil, and Japan; less to France, West Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Pakistan. Principal factor in the decline is this year's improved crop situation in importing countries, particularly in Europe and Asia. France is back in the export market after having been a net importer last season. Australia's drought may reduce that nation's shipments to Asian markets.

Larger corn exports brightest spot in this year's feed grain exports. Feed grain exports totaled an estimated 375 thousand short tons this September compared with 514 thousand last September, a reduction of about one-fourth. However, the July-September total of about 1,650 thousand tons this year is almost as much as a year earlier. Corn exports more than doubled and maintained the total export volume as oats, barley, and grain sorghums fell off. Larger corn shipments are expected to be the main factor in raising this year's feed grain exports close to the record volume of 8.4 million tons in 1955-56. Large supplies are available in the United States; CCC is selling corn on competitive bid for export; considerable quantities will be included in Public Law 480 programs. Mexico is slated to receive 20.5 million bushels of yellow corn under a Public Law 480 Title I agreement announced October 23. At the same time, Europe is in the market for more U. S. feed grains this year in the light of its better quality wheat crop and large feed requirements.

Smaller rice exports reflecting less Government export programs. August-September milled rice exports are estimated at 75 million pounds this season contrasted with 431 million last season. A year earlier, exports were swelled by large movements to Asia under Public Law 480.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

Soybean exports hit new high. Exports in the marketing year ended September 30 amounted to an estimated 85 million bushels in 1957--a new record--compared with 67 million in 1956. Exports have been rising for a number of years; 10 years ago, in 1946, they totaled only 4 million bushels. Last year's export record was made possible by record domestic output. In addition, foreign demand was strong as foreign supplies have not kept pace with growth in consumption abroad.

Exports of cottonseed and soybean oils slightly ahead of last year's record. Exports are estimated at a record 1.2 billion pounds in the marketing year ended September 30 this year, slightly larger than the 1,168 million pounds a year earlier. Smaller exports of cottonseed oil were offset by larger exports of soybean oil. A sizable part of exports in the past 2 years has been under Government programs, particularly foreign currency sales.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Lard exports up in September. An estimated 30 million pounds were shipped this September compared with 24 million in August and 38 million pounds in September last year. The January-September total amounted to 385 million pounds this year compared with 470 million last year. Exports have been running under a year ago due to reduced domestic output, higher prices, greater domestic use of lard in shortening and margarine, reduced Public Law 480 and ICA shipments, and increased lard output in Europe.

Tallow exports recover in September. Exports of inedible tallow and grease are estimated at 115 million pounds in September 1957, up 35 million from August but about 5 million short of September 1956's 120 million pounds. January-September's 1.1 billion pounds this year compared with 1,159 million last year. Public Law 480 sales for foreign currency helped to maintain this year's exports close to last year's record level.

IMPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Agricultural imports also running under year-ago level. Following the relatively large decline in July, imports of agricultural commodities were substantially as large this August as in August 1956. July-August total amounted to \$618 million this fiscal year compared with \$643 million last year. Supplementary (competitive) imports changed little, but complementary (noncompetitive) items totaled 8 percent less, largely the outcome of smaller coffee shipments.

Nonagricultural imports are greater. Total imports for consumption of \$2,183 million in the July-August period were \$90 million larger this year than last. A rise in nonagricultural imports more than offset the reduction in agricultural imports. July-August nonagricultural total increased from \$1,450 million in 1956 to \$1,565 million in 1957. Nonagricultural gain, like that for agricultural imports, took place mostly in July.

Coffee main factor in agricultural drop. July-August coffee imports were down from 464 million pounds in 1956 to 399 million in 1957. However, arrivals this September and October were well under a year earlier. Roasters here are carrying smaller inventories. Main influencing factors are the relatively high cost of acquiring and holding stocks and the uncertainty as to future price levels in view of the world surplus situation. Brazil is carrying stocks of over 7 million bags, with exportable production of 18 million bags coming along in 1957-58; Colombia owns 2 million bags, with exportable production of at least 5 million bags in sight in 1957-58.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS: August 1956 and 1957 and July-August 1956 and 1957

Commodity exported	Unit:	August				July-August			
		1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
		Quantity	Quantity	Value	Value	Quantity	Quantity	Value	Value
				dollars	dollars	Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
Cheese	Lb.	1,830	2,848	535	1,169	3,835	4,061	1,194	1,595
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	12,772	19,897	2,018	3,011	27,022	32,046	4,238	4,923
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	3,774	5,168	1,843	2,372	6,628	9,729	3,286	4,300
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	16,898	24,192	1,611	2,076	53,980	43,181	5,391	5,297
Eggs, in the shell	Doz.	4,686	2,192	1,818	984	7,195	5,232	2,889	2,241
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	3,023	1,774	761	675	9,523	3,411	2,883	1,353
Pork, total b/	Lb.	4,499	4,559	1,143	1,686	9,101	9,594	2,513	3,440
Lard, incl. shortenings, (animal)	Lb.	40,989	24,423	5,504	3,489	83,238	59,218	10,847	8,544
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	122,292	79,634	9,413	6,908	232,981	197,018	18,424	16,876
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale:	440	351	65,416	51,220	580	789	84,781	114,078
Apples, fresh	Lb.	3,239	2,950	255	242	8,009	7,426	630	641
Oranges and tangerines	Lb.	53,771	48,489	2,938	2,995	112,087	110,495	6,239	6,686
Prunes, dried	Lb.	2,636	6,097	458	841	8,646	9,960	1,531	1,412
Raisins and currants	Lb.	7,694	4,250	1,101	700	19,136	8,171	2,545	1,313
Fruits, canned *	Lb.	31,559	38,300	4,749	5,516	44,700	56,272	6,833	8,121
Fruit juices *	Gal.	976	1,574	1,457	1,732	2,287	3,464	3,430	3,819
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	6,420	2,839	7,686	2,877	15,092	6,961	17,834	7,063
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	5,859	18,592	9,399	26,309	12,587	29,071	20,376	41,157
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu.	7,950	4,225	9,048	4,616	12,031	7,851	13,746	8,499
Rice, milled, excludes paddy	Lb.	278,300	37,710	18,510	3,515	448,902	146,859	31,271	12,651
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	39,116	29,222	64,194	51,301	76,364	57,040	125,905	102,409
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	1,782	2,048	7,279	8,666	3,386	3,950	13,884	16,994
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Bu.	1,709	7,833	4,792	19,674	5,417	12,462	15,460	31,503
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	69,538	20,452	11,742	2,922	127,359	54,795	20,723	8,103
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	22,441	28,635	3,870	4,513	73,160	50,573	12,157	8,046
Tobacco, flue-cured	Lb.	30,171	34,034	20,174	23,925	46,662	59,071	31,252	41,070
Tobacco, leaf, other *	Lb.	5,480	5,744	3,679	4,208	11,534	8,758	7,912	6,877
Beans, dried	Lb.	22,615	21,270	1,264	1,504	63,412	54,991	3,427	3,625
Peas, dried (incl. cowpeas & chickpeas)	Lb.	5,413	4,285	368	271	7,122	7,769	484	537
Potatoes, white	Lb.	7,321	20,363	230	583	44,920	45,735	2,308	1,095
Vegetables, canned *	Lb.	5,918	12,228	866	1,669	12,765	26,673	2,111	3,412
Food exported for relief, etc.								24,370	25,300
Other agricultural commodities				12,082	6,541				
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL				58,137	64,370			110,701	126,031
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				333,940	313,080			611,575	629,011
a/ Preliminary.									
b/ Product weight									
*Composition of these groups includes only those classes which were separately classified in the Bureau of Census reporting schedule G.				1,525,105	1,664,510			3,152,566	3,339,025

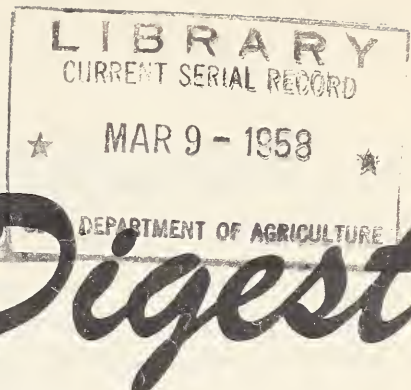
Compiled from official records. Bureau of the Census.

IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): August 1956 and 1957, and July-August 1956 and 1957 ^{a/}

Commodity imported	Unit	August		Value		Quantity		July-August	
		1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars	Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
SUPPLEMENTARY									
Cattle, dutiable	No.	4	32	615	4,276	8	56	1,194	7,296
Cheese	Lb.	3,862	3,208	1,966	1,646	7,030	6,058	3,645	3,155
Hides and skins	Lb.	14,353	10,802	6,134	4,387	25,571	17,410	10,916	7,135
Beef and veal, total ^{b/}	Lb.	15,192	30,730	4,294	7,903	25,112	42,526	6,900	11,042
Pork, total ^{b/}	Lb.	11,363	7,040	7,818	5,191	23,989	18,161	16,658	13,805
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	11,314	9,323	10,149	7,896	22,888	18,185	19,954	15,683
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale	4	8	863	1,612	6	14	1,187	2,971
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	3	4	657	926	7	7	1,365	1,864
Olives in brine	Gal.	744	997	1,390	1,723	1,675	2,219	3,118	3,821
Pineapples, prep. canned or preserved	Lb.	10,084	11,990	1,238	1,402	20,000	22,543	2,399	2,620
Pineapple juice	Gal.	716	1,229	263	434	1,044	2,102	384	749
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	2,109	1,535	2,838	1,976	5,286	2,674	7,082	3,392
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	2,449	2,339	1,789	1,708	2,572	5,209	1,908	3,827
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	284	668	483	984	571	1,272	907	1,775
Feeds and feeders	Bu.	c/	c/	1,042	720	c/	c/	2,048	1,813
Nuts and preparations	Lb.	c/	c/	6,039	4,767	c/	c/	10,284	9,833
Copra	Lb.	54,949	45,575	3,506	2,825	99,648	105,606	6,325	6,532
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	45,240	40,665	6,176	6,958	90,863	78,964	13,974	13,790
Seeds, field and garden	Lb.	c/	c/	940	706	c/	c/	1,902	1,113
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	437	365	46,591	41,638	842	790	89,274	90,509
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	20,830	30,754	1,915	3,593	46,750	59,369	4,579	8,738
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	8,282	7,037	5,970	5,389	15,875	16,450	11,512	12,216
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,221	891	1,785	1,442	2,278	1,995	3,385	3,169
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	1,125	1,455	81	90	1,618	2,748	110	167
Other supplementary				24,852	22,812			49,604	47,143
Total supplementary				139,394	133,004			270,614	274,158
COMPLEMENTARY									
Silk, raw	Lb.	708	559	2,983	2,321	1,207	963	5,083	3,920
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	15,398	15,098	9,216	9,622	29,324	27,054	17,715	17,347
Bananas	Bunch	3,624	3,488	5,345	5,069	7,425	7,385	11,052	10,739
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	190,354	190,693	99,643	97,339	464,088	399,177	240,346	206,754
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	33,489	17,217	8,173	4,854	79,501	65,749	18,975	17,327
Tea	Lb.	7,560	8,202	3,498	3,384	15,123	16,639	7,007	7,140
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	7,380	5,084	2,437	1,828	14,995	11,883	5,563	4,384
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	9	11	1,448	1,530	17	21	2,737	2,961
Rubber, crude	Lb.	90,123	109,650	22,981	30,831	182,868	209,913	47,812	59,120
Other complementary				8,542	6,620			16,121	14,435
Total complementary				164,266	163,398			372,411	344,127
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES				303,660	296,402			643,025	618,285
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				1,047,571	1,044,441			2,093,425	2,182,660

^{a/} Preliminary. ^{b/} Product weight. ^{c/} Reported in value only.

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FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 1957

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

July-October agricultural exports this fiscal year are slightly smaller than last year. Value for the first 4 months of 1957-58 is estimated at \$1,360 million, 3 percent less than 1956-57's comparable \$1,406 million. Corresponding figures for earlier periods are \$1,040 million in 1955-56 and \$840 million in 1952-53, the post-Korean low year. Compared with 1956-57, principal quantity and value declines this year were in wheat, rice, barley, oats, rye, and soybean oil. Cotton exports were close to last year's high level. And there were sizable gains in corn, tobacco, soybeans, and flaxseed. Despite notably smaller export volumes, export values for cottonseed oil, lard, and tallow were fairly well maintained by this year's higher export prices.

October shipments totaled close to \$400 million. This amount--estimated from Government and trade sources--compares with \$426 million in October 1956 and \$334 million in September 1957. Large reductions this October from last were in exports of cotton, wheat, oats, rice, and soybean oil. Large increases occurred in tobacco and cottonseed oil.

U. S. Agricultural Exports July-October

Commodity	1956	1957 1/2	% chg.
	\$ Million		
Cotton.....	257	250	- 3
Grains and feeds..	481	415	-14
Tobacco.....	142	165	+16
Veg. oils, seeds..	126	140	+11
Fruits and vgs..	128	130	+ 2
Livestock prods..	188	175	- 7
Private relief 2/	43	45	+ 5
Other.....	41	40	- 2
Total.....	1,406	1,360	- 3

(1952-54 = 100)

Quantity index... 171 162 - 5

1/ Partly estimated. 2/ Mostly CCC donations to welfare agencies for overseas needy.

Cotton, wheat, and rice are the big factors in this year's export drop. They accounted for the bulk of last year's agricultural export rise to the record \$4,724 million. They are beginning to play the biggest role in this year's anticipated 15-percent drop to \$4 billion.

...Declines in cotton and wheat exports will total more than \$250 million each.

...Reduction in rice exports is expected to run about \$90 million.

...This leaves less than \$100 million for expected reductions in other items.

...Bright spots in this year's exports are the prospective gains for soybeans, flaxseed, and feed grains. Lower feed grain prices this year, however, will tend to minimize the export value gain.

COTTON

Foreign countries have large stocks of U. S. cotton. Although cotton shipments held up well during the July-October period compared with a year ago, thus far in the current marketing year (August-October), they are running 20 percent below last year. The August-October total is estimated at 1,300 thousand bales (500 pounds gross) this year compared with 1,589 thousand bales last year. Exports in October alone approximated 550 thousand bales this year, about 70 thousand less than last year. This year's export decline is attributable in large measure to last year's buildup in stocks of U. S. cotton in importing countries, the tighter foreign exchange position of some importing countries, higher costs of carrying stocks due to rising rates of interest, a slightly larger supply of foreign cotton (mostly extra long staple) available for export, and reduced U. S. foreign aid.

GRAINS

Europe has a record wheat crop this year. U. S. exports of wheat, including the grain equivalent of flour, are estimated at 35 million bushels in October this year, 7 million less than in October 1956. The July-October total of 130 million bushels is smaller by 32 million. The October decline was the fourth in a row. Most important reason for this year's smaller exports is the record wheat crop in Europe. France is exporting again, and crop conditions in other European countries generally are also good. The Argentine crop is described as good to excellent. Near-record crops are reported for India and Pakistan. Output in Canada and Australia, however, is down from last year.

Exports of rice are one-third of last year's volume. Milled rice exports have been running under a year earlier since June. The export estimate for October is 85 million pounds this year, about one-third as much as a year earlier. Total for the first 3 months of the marketing year (August-October) is estimated at 270 million pounds this year contrasted with 675 million last year. While commercial exports for dollars are likely to remain approximately the same this year, less is being shipped under Government programs.

Foreign need for U. S. feed grains is larger this year. In contrast with the declines in exports of wheat and rice, exports of feed grains have gained this year over last, principally due to larger corn shipments. October feed grain exports are estimated at 5 percent above a year ago while July-October shipments totaled 8 percent ahead. July-October shipments amounted to 2,420 thousand short tons this year, 170 thousand more

TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

December 5, 1957

Prospects for U. S. agricultural exports this fiscal year are good. This, in brief, is what was reported to State Extension Specialists at the 35th Annual Outlook Conference held in Washington November 18-21.

This year's exports will not be as high as last year's record \$4.7 billion. Nevertheless, a year among the highest in history is expected, with exports of about \$4 billion.

Prospective overall drop is coming about mainly because of 3 commodities-- cotton, wheat, and rice. Last year, exports of each were unusually high. Wheat and rice set new records, and cotton was highest in almost a quarter of a century. Although exports of each will be smaller this year, they will remain above the postwar average.

...Cotton: Export level this year will be influenced largely by bigger stocks of U. S. cotton now in importing countries, general tightening of dollar exchange abroad, increased interest rates, smaller supplies of high quality upland cotton on world markets, slight increase in foreign-grown cotton available for export, and less U. S. foreign aid. Exports in the neighborhood of 5-1/2 million bales are likely. This is about 2 million under last year but still larger than any other season since 1951-52.

...Wheat: Europe was a better market for U. S. wheat last year because of its poor crop. This year its wheat crop is at an alltime high, and there is less need for imports. Moreover, France is back as a large exporter. U. S. exports of 400 million bushels are expected. This is about 150 million less than last year but still exceeds each year but one since 1951-52.

...Rice: Last year's exports largely reflected the moving of accumulated surpluses through special Government programs to meet urgent foreign requirements which could not be met through commercial trade. Export total this year will approximate one-half of last year's 26 million bags, milled basis.

Other items:

...Feed grains: Exports are expected to be substantially above those of last year and may be near the 8.5-million ton record of 2 years ago. Demand in Western Europe will be larger than last year when much low-grade wheat was fed. Mexico's poor corn crop this year has increased its demand for U. S. corn. Argentina has less corn to export from its small April crop.

...Food fats and oils: Exports in the current marketing year (including oil equivalent of soybeans) may be a little less than the record 2.9

billion pounds last year. Movement abroad will be encouraged by lower prices, but competition in world markets will be keener this year.

- ...Tobacco: Last marketing year, exports totaled 557 million pounds (farm sales weight), down 14 percent from the unusually high 1955-56 volume. This year may see another decline--perhaps 5-10 percent below last year. The flue-cured crop is the smallest in many years, and prices of some export grades are significantly higher.
- ...Fruits: World demand during the 1957-58 marketing season should be equal to or slightly better than that of 1956-57. In Western Europe, some trade restrictions have been liberalized. And there is a short deciduous fruit crop there. Demand for U. S. oranges will be affected by larger supplies expected in the Mediterranean area. The U. S. raisin crop is short this year. U. S. prune crop is excellent and prices are reduced; foreign supplies are below average.
- ...Pulses: Exports of dry edible beans will be somewhat smaller this season than last, when substantial quantities moved under special Government programs. With better crops in Europe, exports of dry field peas are likely to be smaller.

About two-fifths of the total value of agricultural exports in the past 2 years moved under special Government export programs: Sales for foreign currencies, grants, and barter. The proportion is expected to stay about the same this year.

* * *

When Secretary Benson returned from his recent round-the-world trip (see TNR in October-November 1957 DIGEST), he reported encouraging market opportunities for dollar sales of our farm products in several countries. But he also stated that, with our farm surplus still large and with many countries short of dollars, we need special Government programs such as P.L. 480. The Secretary said that he plans to recommend that Congress extend P.L. 480 for another year.

* * *

Further easing of foreign restrictions that affect U. S. farm exports:

For the Christmas season:

- ...Austria: Has removed duties on oranges and tangerines.
- ...West Germany: Has issued an import tender for turkeys.

Other:

- ...West Germany: Has added redtop seed to the commodities which can be imported from the United States and Canada. Has announced another import tender--good until next March 31--for dessert apples and pears.

than last year. Europe, with smaller supplies of oats, barley, and feed wheat this year, is taking more U. S. feed grains. The large supply of feed grains in the United States, particularly corn, has resulted in special emphasis on exports--especially through Public Law 480--as a means of disposing of surplus grain. In addition, CCC is selling corn on competitive bids.

TOBACCO

More tobacco is moving this year despite small crop. October exports are estimated at 80 million pounds this year compared with 69 million last year. July-October volume of 225 million pounds compares with 207 million last year. The small 1957 crop of flue-cured leaf (main export type) is much more desirable to foreign buyers than the much larger 1956 crop, which contained a high percentage of varieties having little flavor and aroma. Another factor conducive to increasing tobacco exports is that this year's domestic trade's purchases are running well below previous years. However, despite larger exports early in the season, shipments for the year as a whole may fall somewhat short of the 1956-57 volume of 500 million pounds.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

Soybean exports headed for new record in 1957-58. Exports of soybeans in October are estimated at 11 million bushels this year compared with 10 million last year. In the 1956-57 marketing year, exports set a record of 85 million bushels, 18 million more than in 1955-56. Exports in 1957-58, following the upward trend of recent years, are expected to reach a new high of at least 90 million bushels. Exports have become an increasingly important outlet for soybeans and soybean products; about 35 percent of last year's crop was shipped abroad--the equivalent of 75 million bushels as soybean oil in addition to the 85 million bushels shipped as soybeans. Foreign demand is based on the need for the protein in the beans as well as for the oil. European demand for protein feed has increased sharply in recent years as rising consumer incomes have led to a greater demand for meat, poultry, eggs, and dairy products. Demand for U. S. beans is favored by the record domestic supplies available, which ensure certainty of delivery. The Chinese are exporting less soybeans and other oilseeds because of limited production and because of an apparent need to increase food supplies in China.

Soybean and cottonseed oil exports to continue large. Combined exports of soybean oil and cottonseed oil totaled 70 million pounds in October 1957 compared with 95 million in 1956. October shipments this year exceeded September's 41 million pounds. Totals for the marketing year were a record 1,230 million pounds in 1956-57 and 1,162 million in 1955-56. Larger soybean oil exports offset a reduction in cottonseed oil. Exports in 1957-58 are likely to continue large--about 1,100 million pounds--but below the 1956-57 volume. U. S. exporters are facing stronger competition from foreign supplies. Bumper crops of peanuts are indicated in Nigeria, French West Africa, and India. A larger Mediterranean olive crop is expected. Canada and Western Europe have materially larger rapeseed crops.

Exports of edible oils under Public Law 480 will approximate or possibly exceed last year's 549 million pounds, but exports financed by ICA and regular commercial sales may both be below the 1956-57 levels. Moreover, the United States has smaller supplies of quality cottonseed oil this year. Also, rain has greatly delayed harvesting of the cotton crop.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Lard exports still running behind a year earlier. Although lard exports increased to 43 million pounds this October compared with 31 million in September, they ran 4 million under a year earlier. The January-October total approximated 425 million pounds this year compared with 517 million in 1956. Reduced exports this year are attributed to reduced domestic slaughter of hogs and to stronger competition for home use. In the coming year, exports will continue to be limited, but less by these factors than by increased foreign competition and reduced foreign demand for U. S. lard. Several important northern European countries have encouraged expansion in hog output. Cuba, our largest market, is expanding output. Foreign import restrictions will hurt U. S. marketings abroad. Little lard is likely to move out under Public Law 480.

Tallow exports holding close to last year's record. Exports of inedible tallow and greases totaled 85 million pounds this October, 23 million less than last October. Total for January-October was 1,180 million pounds this year, 93 percent as much as last year's record rate of 1,267 million. The strong export demand reflects mainly the increased use of U. S. tallow abroad due to its high quality and relatively low price. Many low income countries have been rapidly increasing their soap output. Furthermore, exportable supplies from other countries are limited.

I M P O R T H I G H L I G H T S

Import data for September 1957 and July-September 1957 were not available at the time this issue was prepared for publication. The table, usually shown on page 8, will be carried in the January 1958 issue.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS: September 1956 and 1957 and July-September 1956 and 1957 a/

Commodity exported	Unit:	September		July-September	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1956	1957	1956	1957
Cheese	Lb.	10,850	4,687	14,685	8,748
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	14,622	15,762	41,644	47,808
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	3,820	2,681	10,448	12,410
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	19,274	29,588	73,254	72,769
Eggs, in the shell	Doz.	3,503	2,055	10,699	7,287
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	7,172	9,699	16,695	13,110
Pork, total b/	Lb.	5,078	3,864	14,179	13,459
Lard, incl. shortenings, (animal)	Lb.	38,147	30,545	121,384	89,763
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	113,288	110,506	346,269	307,525
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.)	Bales	526	395	1,107	1,183
Apples, fresh	Lb.	6,235	5,547	14,245	12,973
Oranges and tangerines	Lb.	43,477	38,844	155,565	149,338
Prunes, dried	Lb.	11,611	7,839	20,256	17,799
Raisins and currants	Lb.	6,765	5,424	25,901	13,595
Fruits, canned *	Lb.	47,543	59,035	92,243	115,307
Fruit juices *	Gal.	778	965	3,065	4,428
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	6,875	3,359	21,967	10,320
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	6,257	13,819	18,844	42,890
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu.	3,913	1,353	15,944	9,204
Rice, milled, excludes paddy	Lb.	153,237	147,177	602,139	294,036
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	28,770	25,845	105,133	82,885
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	2,210	1,966	5,595	5,915
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Bu.	2,879	4,509	8,297	16,971
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	75,713	27,207	203,072	82,001
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	30,878	14,060	104,037	64,633
Tobacco, flue-cured	Lb.	71,475	67,533	118,137	126,604
Tobacco, leaf, other *	Lb.	8,416	8,073	19,951	16,831
Beans, dried	Lb.	18,012	25,521	81,425	80,512
Peas, dried (incl. cowpeas & chickpeas)	Lb.	13,704	5,459	20,826	13,227
Potatoes, white	Lb.	28,227	28,348	73,147	74,082
Vegetables, canned *	Lb.	9,345	14,259	22,110	40,932
Food exported for relief, etc.					
Other agricultural commodities					
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL			62,815		173,518
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES			368,089		979,664
			1,521,454		4,674,020
			1,526,778		4,865,803

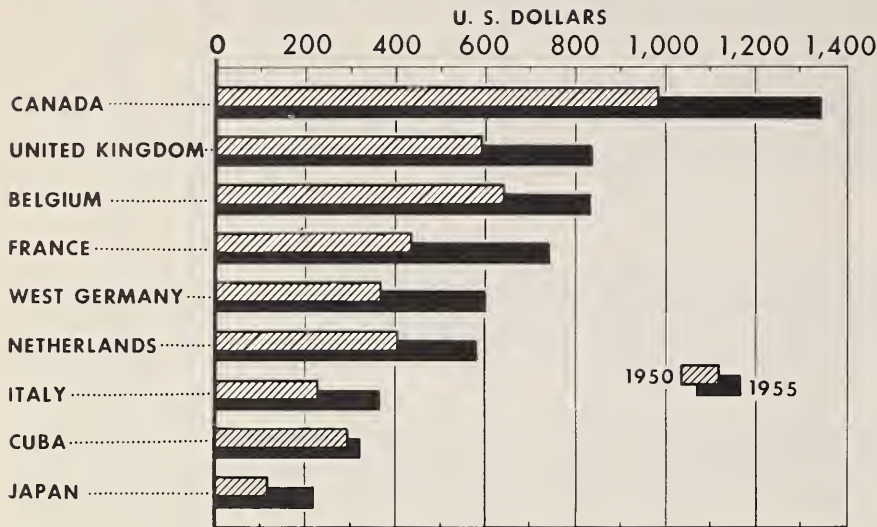
a/ Preliminary.

b/ Product weight.

* Composition of these groups includes only those classes which were separately classified in the Bureau of Census reporting schedule G.

Compiled from official records. Bureau of the Census.

Per-Capita Income Up in Major Export Markets



USDA

FAS-NEG. 1453

Per capita incomes have been rising in recent years in most countries in the world. This, with increasing world population and improved diets, is among the most important factors in achieving high international trade in farm products. There is good correlation (see charts)

between per capita income and volume of farm products imported from the U.S. Nine of the U.S. major markets are listed on the upper chart. A comparison with the ranking of the best U.S. customers in volume of trade indicates that high income is

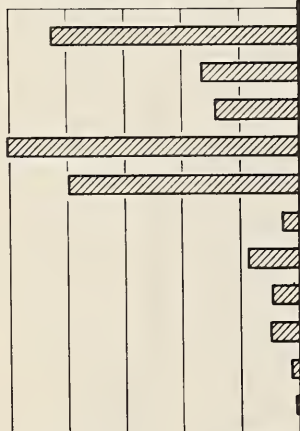
generally related to high imports.

This correlation is even more pronounced when imports are put on a per capita basis (lower chart).

It seems certain that incomes and world demand for farm products will continue to rise. Prospects are good for the U.S. to sell heavily in an enlarged world market. Many world agricultural nations are likely to import more agricultural products because their population is expanding faster than their rate of agricultural production.

Per Capita Income and Agricultural Imports Related

PER CAPITA VALUE OF AGRIC.
IMPORTS FROM U. S. IN 1956
\$25 \$20 \$15 \$10 \$5 0



USDA

PER CAPITA INCOME IN 1955
0 \$500 \$1,000 \$1,500



FAS-NEG. 1463

Selected countries: Per capita income, 1955 and per capita value of U.S. agricultural imports, 1956

Country	Per capita income, 1955		Per capita value of U.S. agri. imports, 1956	
	U.S. dollars	Per capita income, 1955	U.S. dollars	Per capita value of U.S. agri. imports, 1956
Canada	1,340	21.19	21.19	21.19
United Kingdom	835	8.24	8.24	8.24
West Germany	600	7.09	7.09	7.09
Netherlands	580	25.04	25.04	25.04
Cuba	320	19.92	19.92	19.92
Turkey	220	1.42	1.42	1.42
Japan	210	4.35	4.35	4.35
Mexico	200	2.25	2.25	2.25
Philippines	180	2.41	2.41	2.41
Brazil	135	.71	.71	.71
India	55	.23	.23	.23